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VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE

VOL. XXVI.

JANUARY 1903

NO. 11

A MUCH ENDURING VINE. (Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

Every floral catalogue gives a strong puff to that much talked of vine, Clematis Paniculata. Floral journals praise it over and over, extolling its free growth, its profusion of bloom, and its fragrance. Yet strangely enough, some of its characteristics, fully as valuable to the cultivator as those that are told over and over, are rarely spoken of. It stands unique among deciduous vines for the length of time it retains its foliage, and deserves abundant praise for the hardships it endures.

Flower growers fail to realize sometimes, the value of fine foliage. There must be a background of green, not only for the growing vine, shrub, or herb's flowers itself, but for all bouquets and cut flower work. When we have pressed into service every scented and Rose Geranium, cut every spray of Smilax we can spare, there is always a dearth remaining of handsome and appropriate foliage. Particularly is this the case, when autumn has cut down our summer favorites. When our neighbor's child dies, or a bride asks us to her quiet home wedding, we sever here a bud and there a blossom from our potted plants, but we cannot ruin our plant's looks by robbing them of the leaves that have so slowly developed, and have so much to do with our plants' symmetry. How we wish then for just enough green, fresh, pretty and graceful, to set off our flowers and make the simple gift

Fortunate, then, is the owner of a Clematis Paniculata vine. Long after other summer vines have shed every leaf, only Honeysucle Halleana and Clematis Paniculata retain their foliage. By and by the Honeysuckle's leaves turn purple and bronze, but its companion Clematis is darkly green as ever. How delightful is it to sever festoon after festoon of this graceful, airy vine, in weather so chill that we shiver as we break the branches, and to bring in our treasures, that once gradually thawed, are green and summery looking as summer herself! A flower-lover who often had resource to her clematis vine for late foliage, emphatically declared that she valued Paniculata most, not for its blossoms; but for the winter green of its foliage.

Not that it is evergreen, not that climate and locality do no have influence upon it, but that it is, take it all in all, the deciduous vine that retains its leaves the longest. The lady referred to in the foregoing paragraph, grew a strong vine that was trained upon the north wall of her home. Long after the vines of its own kind on the south and west sides of the building had lost their leaves, this was green as ever. Many times they

froze as stiff as a board. But on the north, sheltered from the bright noonday or afternoon sun, they thawed out gradually, their beauty not marred in the least. This particular vine, in a locality just south of the Ohio river, remained green until into February. Farther north, such a result could not be looked for, but as the Paniculata's foliage, with a north exposure, will endure a cold reaching nearly or quite to zero before falling, it is possible, by using a little forethought, to have outdoor green to use, even in the coldest climate, six to eight weeks after other vines than

CLEMATIS PANICULATA.

Paniculata are bare. You, who are doubting Thomases, try a vine upon your north walls. You will find for yourself this: its remarkable leaf persistency has not been exaggerated.

Again, our fair Clematis Paniculata will endure more neglect and hardship than any vine ever ought to have to endure. We record an instance, the more gladly that the owner repented of her poor care, and in the end gave her persevering vine the chance that it had earned. There was a certain woodhouse, whose bare ugliness it was thought desirable to drape with growing vines. There was an unpromising bank of earth upon the north side of this woodhouse composed of half and half stiff yellow clay and that sterile earth called hard-pan, refuse soil from a cellar. Several times a vine of one sort and another was planted there only to die the first season. No wonder, for the ground was so hard and poor, and so dry and baked during summer, that a self-respecting dock would have refused to

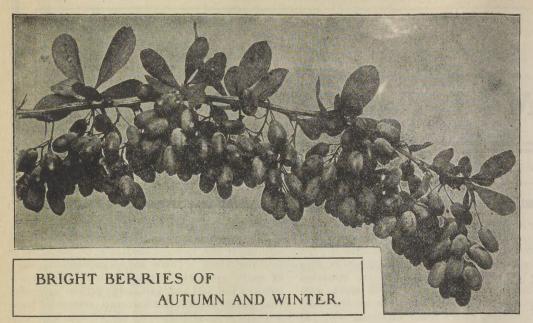
grow there. Finally a two-year old root of Clematis Paniculata was planted. For two years the vine, in the words of Patrick Henry, was left to "Sink or swim, survive or perish." It parched in drouth; it hungered for food; it climbed when it could, and where support failed it, hung in tangled mats of verdure. And in spite of all, grew four or five feet high the first season, seven or eight feet the next, and furnished a few handsful of sweet but undersized blossoms.

Not until for two winters it had furnished its neglectful mistress armfuls of clippings—masses of rich, green foliage when other vines were bare—did its owner wake to its value. Then that was done that should have been done in the first place. Half a wheelbarrowful of good, mellow loam, and half a wheelbarrowful of rotted barnyard manure were brought and used about the vine, digging it in as well as could be done, and leaving a good top-dressing of this rich stuff for two feet in every way about the vine. During growing season, the roots were drenched with suds from the weekly wash.

The transformation was almost unbelievable. A multitude of strong shoots came up, and grew into luxuriant vines. These vines were so long that they covered not only the side of the woodhouse that was supposed to be their goal, but turned the corner and half covered the end of the woodshed also. The foliage was of that rich, deep, dark green that delights a nature lover. In late summer and autumn the vine was a cloud of feathery bloom, each individual flower an inch across. Bushel baskets could have been filled with solid wreaths twelve, fifteen and eighteen inches long. In its first beauty, the daughter of the house exclaimed, "Oh mamma! why can't

there be a wedding for some bride to wear these flowers!" But long, long before the fleecy flowers had gone, their snowy clusters had adorned the bride, covered the bosom of the dead, and brought a breath of summer to the hot, close bedrooms of the sick. That was what one vine, after years of neglect, was able to do when a little encouragement was given to it.

Lora S. LaMance.



No home, however small and unpretentious, is complete without at least a few ornamental shrubs and vines around it. When planting, if one is wise, he will have more or less of those which produce bright colored berries in the late fall and winter. Many shrubs are really more ornamental in fruit than when in flower, and a suitable selection will brighten a lawn or garden in a surprising manner. One bush with scarlet berries will light up the whole landscape, gleaming brightly in the dreary, rainy days of November, and showing gorgeously against the snows of December. One peculiar and admirable characteristic which some shrubs possess is that of being so brilliantly effective in winter. With a background of evergreens, or when planted in shrubbery with others which retain their rich green leaves until late in the season, the brilliancy of the bright-berried shrubs is enhanced by the contrast, and when planted in masses they produce a truly gorgeous effect.

The Climbing Bittersweet, Celastrus scandens, one of our native vines, grows very commonly over the old rail fences and stone walls along the roadside, but it is never fully appreciated until seen in the winter festooned among the branches of an evergreen tree. Its glossy foliage makes it a presentable vine at all times, but when the clustered berries, golden yellow in color, round and smooth at first, open and display the bright scarlet arils within, it truly becomes an object of beauty. The berries retain their form and bright color all through the winter, and swinging, swaying from the branches of the evergreen, the vine carries our hearts by storm and wins for itself a permanent place in our regard. It seems to have no preference as to soil or location, flourishing anywhere and everywhere if given half a chance. It needs no training nor pruning; left alone it will show its own true grace.

A highly ornamental shrub in the fall and early winter is the Euonymus, variously known as the Strawberry Tree, Spindle Tree, Burning Bush, and Wahoo. The brilliantly colored, peculiarly-shaped fruit, sometimes likened to a cardinal's hat, covers the shrub in the greatest profusion and makes it one of the finest for ornamental purposes.

The color of the fruit varies in different species; in some it is of a deep red color, in others rose or pink, crimson, scarlet, and cream, and there is a white variety. The capsules open in the fall, like those of the Bittersweet, displaying bright orange and scarlet arils hanging on slender threads. The fruit usually remains on the branches until late fall or early winter. In some species the leaves turn a purplish red in autumn lending, additional

beauty to the shrub. Some species attain almost the height of trees, but most of them are classed as shrubs. Altogether the Euonymus is one of the grandest ornamental shrubs we have.

The Black Alder, Ilex verticillatus, is a valuable but much neglected native shrub. In the summer it is so absolutely unobtrusive that one scarcely notices it; but when the leaves drop, the scarlet berries which crowd the branches glow with dazzling color, producing a wonderfully showy effect. The berries remain on until late winter. If the leaves were only evergreen, it would far surpass the Holly as a decorative shrub. As it is, it is well worthy of cultivation and most nurserymen catalogue it, some under the name of Prinos. Naturally it grows in wet soil, but it accommodates itself very well to less favorable situations.

The High Bush Cranberry, Viburnum opulus, is another native shrub seldom seen in cultivation but in every way deserving of attention. It has fine broad foliage which takes on bright tints in autumn; the flat cymes of white blossoms render the bush attractive in spring, and the clusters of brilliant scarlet fruit which begin to color in July and remain on the branches all winter, make the shrub very ornamental. The fruit by many. is edible and highly esteemed so that the shrub is both useful and ornamental. Although it grows naturally in moist ground, the Cran-

berry succeeds well in any location. The fruit of many of the Roses is decorative and frequently remains on the bushes until late in the winter. Rosa rugosa, whose beautiful dark green foliage and large single flowers make the bush so attractive in summer, has very large and brilliantly conspicuous berries, or haws, in the fall. Rosa multiflora Japonica, has immense clusters of pure, satiny white flowers about an inch across, single, with a cluster of yellow stamens in the center, and is very fragrant. The flowers are followed by large panicles of bright fruit, very showy and beautiful, especially when seen in contrast with the snows of winter.

That old favorite, the Snowberry, Symphoricarpos racemosus, makes a pleasing addition to the landscape with its snow-white berries growing on the ends of the drooping branches, and lasting well into the winter. The shrub has many good qualities, as it will grow in any soil, fill in corners and spaces where almost no other plant will flourish, and is excellent for planting under trees and on dry gravelly banks. The leaves fall early and the berries make the prettiest show if the bush is planted in front of evergreens, or shrubs which retain their foliage late in the season.

The Barberry, or Berberis, makes one of the most beautiful specimen shrubs, and should be in even the smallest collection. The bushes vary in height from two to six feet and the different species offer a great variety in leaf, flower, and fruit. The showy yellow and orange flowers in May or June are succeeded by bright-colored fruit, which, though small, is produced in such profusion as to cover the branches, as shown by illustration at top of page, and makes it one of the most ornamental shrubs in cultivation. Berberis vulgaris, the common Barberry, is the species most generally cultivated. It bears a profusion of fruit which remains on the branches until the new leaves start in the spring.

Berberis Thunbergii, or Thunberg's Barberry, a Japanese species, has been pronounced "the finest shrub." It is very symmetrical and seldom needs to be trimmed. The foliage changes to beautiful coppery red in the fall, remaining a mass of crimson and gold for weeks, and the bright coral-red berries are persistent on the bush all winter. It is dwarf in habit and especially adapted for low, ornamental hedges.

The Purple-leaved Barberry has rich purple foliage and scarlet fruit. It is a beautiful shrub and largely used for contrast with plants of light-colored foliage. Some species bear dark purple fruit and are desirable for variety.

The profusion of fruit often weighs the slender, drooping branches to the ground, and makes the Barberry very ornamental. It is equally desirable for growing in masses, in front of taller shrubbery, as a single specimen on the lawn, or as an ornamental hedge. The fruit is acid, but agreeable, and makes delicious preserves and jelly.

The few shrubs which I have named are all desirable, and any of them would add brightness to the fall and winter outlook, but could I have only one, I think my choice would be a Barberry bush. I would give it ample room for full and graceful development and find something to admire in it all the year round.

Florence Beckwith.



THUNBERG'S BARBERRY,

THE WINTER WOOD.

Tall gums and poplars arabesqued in white, And, written fine, bird hieroglyphs that tell Where in this frost-flowered stillness sparrows dwell, And splendid cardinals robed in crimson light.

The path is lost: the old familiar way
A thing of memory: the shallow stream
Where many a lily used to lie and dream,
A chain, long-linked of broken white and gray.

All delicate, feathery things find here a place With not a breath to mar their loveliness; The meanest bush wears here an angel's dress, The lowliest weed is draped in priceless lace.

The light grows dimmer, overhead the sky
Draws slowly earthward, and a little flake
Comes trembling down as if it feared to break
The sleep of silence with its falling sigh.

Ingram Crockett in Youth's Companion.

COMPENSATION.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

In a garden of plants grew one whose every effort to bloom was thwarted. As fast as it put forth buds the gardener ruthlessly cut them off. Though failing to understand this cruel treatment, the plant didn't despair for it felt the springs of power within it, and believed it would yet succeed, because it must.

However as the season advanced, and no bud was allowed to develop, it gave up trying to show what it could do in the way of blossoming, shut all its hopes and aspirations within its heart, and gave its full energies to the production of leaves only, so that the passer-by, looking for bloom, spoke derisively of it, saying, "Nothing but leaves!" As in time its leaves yellowed and died, it bitterly denounced itself and its fate. "To what end," it questioned, "did I come into the world, if this is all? Better 'twere that I had never known existence! To what purpose have I hoped until death?"

Though to all appearance dead, and not able to retain even one of its green leaves, yet deep in its heart it cherished still the bud of its secret hopes and aspirations. When naught remained of it but a brown-skinned bulb deep in the earth, the gardener came and removed it, and laid it away in the cold, away from the sweet influences of the sun and rain of its evening time, when in some way it had hoped there might yet be light. So, life and hope being ended, it lay as in a valley of dry bones.

Then one day the gardener came and placed it in earth again. With the renewed warmth and



CLIMBING BITTERSWEET.

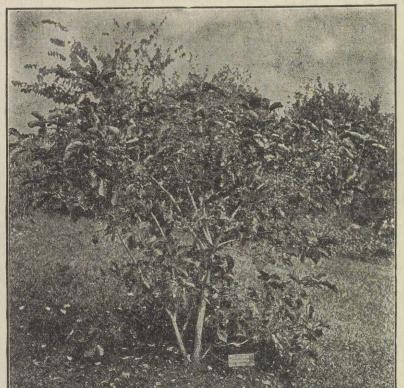
moisture its hopes revived, and it put forth bud and leaves as before, and these were left to grow unchecked. The garden of its remembrance withered and perished under the blight of the frost, and when at length it lay a waste of unbroken snow, and winds were howling and storms beating, shut away from this white death the bulb, growing daily more and more beautiful, attained its perfection of bloom. Then one, standing near, spoke and said, "Ye are saved by hope."

H. S. A

EARLY SPRING PLANTING.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

We will assume that you had forethought and filled a barrel or box in the cellar with earth ready for use. This is easily done by taking a small pail with you when going into the garden or any place where there is suitable soil, filling it, and



EUONYMUS.

then carrying it to the cellar the next time you have occasion to go there. In this way a barrel is soon filled with almost no trouble, and you have a stock of earth ready for all needed purposes.

Now for your very earliest cabbage, cauliflower, eggplant and tomatoes you can fill an old tomato can with soil, sow your seed, and lay over it, after sprinkling on a little soil, a thick, wet flannel, and put in a warm place, almost any time after midwinter, occasionally setting the can on the shelf over the stove a half hour. When the plants show their second leaves, (of course you will have removed the flannel at the first signs of their peeping through the soil), they may be transplanted.

Take some sheets of newspaper about as large as one of the leaves of this magazine, cut crosswise in the center, fold down about two inches of one of the long sides, roll the paper around the hand and tuck one end inside the other under the fold. This will help to hold it in position. It is very quickly done when you once get the knack of it. Set these circles close together in a box and fill the circles with fine soil and set a plant into each circle. Now with ordinary care they will develop into sturdy, healthy plants and when you are ready to put them into the garden you can do so without disturbing the roots, and the cut-



BRANCH OF EUONYMUS.

worms cannot reach them if you are careful not to let the soil come to the top of the paper on the outside.

Should you fear frost after setting the plants in the garden, lay a sheet of paper over each plant and lay dirt on the edge to keep it from blowing away. The papers may be left on several days

without injury and will protect from quite a hard frost.

Eleanor R. Bartlett. Minnesota.

HYACINTHS IN FLOWER.

Written for Vick's Family Magazine.

I hope every flower-lover set hyacinth bulbs in autumn that the beautiful blooms may now be coming forward as late winter days draw on. Winter's reign is yet unbroken although we know that spring is close at hand even though snow piles high without. A good snow storm is a good thing, as he who is in touch with nature knows and we enjoy our window bulbs all the more when storms are raging without.

From the cellar we bring the potted Hyacinths which are sending up sturdy, stiff green leaves with the flower-bud already forming in the center. Give them

clear light in a cool room. Many amateurs make the mistake of placing their hyacinths in a sunny sittingroom window with the temperature of the room at summer heat, and when the flowers wilt and turn dark around the edges—wonder why. Hyacinths to do their best should not be placed between the sun and the fire but in a cool room as stated. I often place the pots in a west window, changing about from west to east thus avoiding too much sun. After the flowers are fully open the bright rays of the sun cause them to wither, but placed upon brackets or in a north window, or upon a little shelf or other attractive place that may suggest itself, they will keep fresh much longer.

Hyacinth bells are beautiful flowers either Roman or Dutch bulbs. Though the flowers of the Roman are smaller, the fragrance is sweeter than the heavily-odored Dutch. The bulbs should be watered occasionally with a little luke warm water, but do not require much moisture.

I hope you purchased all the Hyacinths you could possibly afford in the fall and are now revelling in their sweetness and rich beauty.

Massachusetts. Cousin Delight.

"Help thou thy brother's boat across, and lo! thine own hath reached the shore."

Talks About Flowers

Ву BENJAMIN B. KEECH



CATALOGUE DAYS.

A Happy New Year and many of them. May your gardening operations throughout 1903 meet with complete success. This is the month when the seedsmen's catalogues, rich in many colors and enticing offers, make their appearance; and if the enterprising flower grower could have his own way, he would at once order the entire contents; but, this being impossible, he sends for what he has to have, and lets it go at that. It is sometimes a good thing that we cannot have all the flowers we would like, and the person who owns only a small plot of ground is not always to be pitied. Those who can procure only a few seeds and plants, but who can and will care for them as they ought to be cared for, are the ones that deserve the laurels. and they generally get them, too, in form of fine, thrifty plants and large, rich blossoms.

Don't be discouraged, if you cannot send for every flower to which you take a fancy. Confine yourself to a few favorites; or, if you wish, try some new varieties in place of the old standbys, and resolve to give them the best care and culture possible. Resolves without determination to carry them out are as good as none at all. One of your New Year resolutions should be to make

the coming garden a complete success. It is none too early to begin the work now-on paper and in your head-and during the winter you should study considerably on how you can improve your surroundings. It will pay.

The person with only a limited amount of ground to cultivate will not have to plan so extensively as others, yet he will have his own problems to solve. If he fills every available space with anything that comes handy, he will discover his mistake, sooner or later. A plant should have sufficient room in which to grow decently, no matter whether it is in a five-foot garden or a fiveacre one. A small yard may be made quite as tasty and attractive as larger grounds, but one's own

ideas will have to be used in planning for it. Some other person's advice will not always do. A few things, however, should be observed. The plants should not be crowded to death, they should preferably be kept in beds or masses, and if possible, a little strip of lawn should be cultivated. If you have a fence for a background, plant the tallest varieties first. Each flower should preferably be grouped by itself. The fence should be covered with flowering or ornamental vines.

Large grounds will permit of broader treatment, but the same general rules should be observed. Avoid spotty planting—that is, a plant scattered here and one there—and have a nice lawn to add contrast. The flower garden proper should have a place by itself, either at the sides or back of the house. Choice shrubs and beds of ornamental plants may be placed wherever they will be most needed. In planning for a walk or carriage drive, let it, if possible, be curved. This can probably be done with the former if not the latter. If the walk curves to the east, plant shrubs or have a flower bed on the west side of it, and vice versa. This is to give the idea that the flowers are the cause of the walk curving out, away from them, and the effect will be perfectly

natural, while otherwise it would not. Of course, a narrow margin of greensward should be left between the flower border and the walk. In the new ground, some attention should be given to the planting of trees. Maples are always desirable for shade, and among smaller ornamental trees may be named the cut leaved birch and Japanese maple. If you cannot procure these, a very beautiful effect may be realized by planting willows and evergreens together, at the back boundary of your lot, for instance.

Fruit trees should by no means be overlooked, for one of the most beautiful bouquets that was ever fashioned is a thrifty fruit tree in full bloom. Then, a few months later, it blossoms forth in another way, and perhaps no fruit is sweeter than that plucked from one's own "vine and fig tree." However, I am in danger of wandering from my subject, and we will now turn to another department in the catalogue where we will consider

ANNUALS AND PERENNIALS.

These are two of the most worthy and satisfactory classes of plants that any one can culitvate. Among favorite annuals may be named the aster, which has been given so much encomium that it

SCABIOSA

would seem as if its head must be turned. However, I think it would be difficult to overpraise this excellent flower. It has every desirable point except fragrance, and the person that would not forgive it this one small lack must indeed be hard We now have a yellow aster, which we previously longed for but lacked, and there are many other beautiful and delightful shades from which to select; such as shell pink, peachy pink, rose, soft lilac, deep red and purple black. Then, we have small flowered and medium flowered, besides large flowered and chrysanthemum flowered Also, short, tall and branching varieties. difficult to tell just which class is the most desirable, and one can only form an opinion by experimenting with as many varieties as possible.

I shall pass by pansies, phlox Drummondi, verbenas, dianthus pinks and nasturtiums, for nearly every one knows them, or at least ought to, and they are just as satisfactory and obliging now as they ever were, only very much more so. I would like to interest you now in some other annuals that are not so well known as their merits deserve; and among the plants that I hope you will try this year, let me name the salpiglossis. The colors shown in these flowers are peculiarly rich, like satin, and the blossoms are penciled and

veined after Nature's own inimitable method. Sow the seed in the open ground, in May. Let the soil be light and fine. Use plenty of leaf mould, sand and old manure and the plants will reward you with large quantities of rich blossoms.

The petunia is almost a different flower from what used to be, and if you have never grown it before you will undoubtedly meet with many pleasant surprises. A light, mellow soil should be given, but excessive richness produces more foliage than flowers. The calliopsis and bachelor's button (centaurea) are also much improved and will add greatly to your garden. The former comes in light and dark yellow, splashed with dark browns and reds; the latter are blue, purple, pink, white, etc., and a most beautiful bouquet can be made by grouping the white, pink and blue varieties

Although inconspicuous, the mignonette is a very sweet flower, and should be given a corner of your garden to itself. The scabosia is beautiful: and, with its graceful, wiry stems may be made into very pleasing bouquets, in rose bowls and tumblers. Although blue is lacking, it has a range of color from white to maroon, and will surely delight one, if given half a show. The

ten week stock should, by no means, be overlooked, for it has many different colors, and the plants are in all ways obliging. Many varieties of marigolds and poppies are quite beautiful, and deserve a place in every flower garden. The snapdragon (antirrhinum) is only half hardy, but it is a very pleasing perennial. The colors are principally white, yellow and red, but these do not always appear in the same flower. Next to the phlox and hollyhock I consider the larkspur to be our most satisfactory perennial. Sow the seed in the open ground in May, and by the next summer the plants will favor you with their large, attractive blossoms of white, blue, pink, etc. Larkspurs grow larger and better every year, and after

a while it may become necessary to take divisions from the roots, in order to give them sufficient breathing space. There are half a dozen distinct colors, and in order to provide yourself with a genuine treat, procure them all.

The hollyhock is desirable because it makes a good background for shorter plants, and because the flowers embrace many pleasing colors, such as soft pink, light yellow, salmon and deep maroon. They do not flower the first season, but should be expected to do well the second, third and fourth year after planting. The foxglove (digitalis) is an obliging and satisfactory perennial. doesn't care so much about direct sunlight as most other plants and may be formed into handsome masses in shady corners of the flower garden. Sow out of doors and when large enough transplant to where they are to remain. The campanula is pretty and graceful, the perennial poppy is bright and dazzling and the perennial phlox is extremely satisfactory and floriferous.

SEASONABLE SUGGESTIONS.

The general rule is to discard fall planted bulbs after they get through blooming, and this advice should be considered where the bulbs are not (Continued on page thirty-seven.)

Some Iron Clads

BY DART FAIRTHORNE

think it safe to say that there are few with giant cottonwoods, whose great our fields, our orchards and our groves, plants, shrubs, or trees adapted to this latitude which may not be successfully grown in Nebraska if by some artificial means water be supplied in unlimited measure.

It must be taken into consideration that widely diverging natural conditions prevail in passing from the eastern to the central and western sections of the State and that it is for the dryer central portion that I speak. Trees are large and plentiful in the undulating lands of the eastern counties. With a few exceptions as to sorts and locations they have for the most part to be pretty carefully nurtured to do well away from the water-courses of the middle portion, and in the dry, arid lands of the western part of the state if trees are grown at all it is at the cost of vast pains and toil; Nature not having yet included them in her scheme of decoration for the far West.

Of the three essentials to growth, light, heat and moisture we have the two first; but Nature it must be admitted is a little grudging to us most seasons as to the third essential. Given but a more generous rainfall and I know not to what lengths Nebraska might go in arboreal and horticultural directions. Her soil is of the richest, her productive possibilities beyond question; and the sweeping winds which prove her vegetation's deadliest foe, die down to gentle breezes when air and soil are sufficiently supplied with moisture. Yet even with this drawback our people should not be discouraged; for with multiplying groves, orchards and timber-belts, and the breaking up of the buffalo grass sod, which turns water like shingles, the air grows more humid, rainfalls more frequent, and the conditions of success more assured.

Government did a great thing for the beauty and the bettering of the atmospheric conditions of the country, when the tree-claim system was established. Through ignorance as to their value, and having served their original intention of securing the land, these tree-claims were fast becoming obliterated through neglect when Sterling Morton came to the rescue, and Arbor Day became a fixed institution in our State. Under this stimulus tree planting is much increased, old timber belts are being reclaimed, new orchards are putting out, and even with the odds against us, our homes are coming to be embowered in beauty, our village and city streets, court-house squares, and

After eleven years of endeavor in mental shade trees, and one country horticultural directions in this state, road that I wat of as level and smooth her to yield to us the treasures which -of observation and experiment-of as a city boulevard for eighteen miles she withholds so jealously, while we many failures and some successes, I in extent, is shaded on either side wrest inch by inch from the elements,

hardly a break in their stately ranks finer things of the garden. What our for the whole distance. What has been done, can and will be done again shrubs and plants to make the home to the vast advantage of our State and people.

While we are engaged in a hand to hand struggle with Nature to compel

arms almost meet over head with we have little time to dally with the people want is a few ornamental trees, place beautiful, which will come along and give a reasonably good account of themselves with but the minimum of

> What best to plant for this purpose our Horticultural Stations will soon be able to tell us upon authority. (Continued on page thirty.)

MOST COMP LABORATORY IN THE WORLD



(Sketched expressly for VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE.)

Binghamton, N. Y., Dec. 22.—Whoever goes to Binghamton, as I did, will find a much alive, brisk city, with beautiful, wide, asphalted streets and charming residential sections. Its business streets are decked with handsome business buildings and public institutions, but none of them can compare in magnitude and beauty with the new Swamp-Root masonry and cement of the main lines of all railroads entering the main lines of all railroads entering the city runs direct to the doors of the shipping department.

After going through this new structure as well as the present Laboratory, the writer was surprised to see the immense scale on which Swamp-Root is prepared.

But when an hour later, I sat in the fire-proof masonry and cement offices of Dr. Kilmer & Co. and had the tude and beauty with the new Swamp-Root Laboratory now nearing completion. This tall, towering building is the first object that confronts the eye upon alighting from the train at the railway station.

The building itself is remarkable, because when finished it will be the finest, most scientifically built, and best equipped medical laboratory in the

It was the pleasure of Vick's Family Magazine to send a representative to inspect this building, and from the standpoint of an architect, scientist and searcher after the beautiful, I can say, with warmth, that the trip from Rochester was well worth while was well worth while.

Hundreds upon hundreds of the read-

ers of Vick's Family Magazine owe their restored health, and the restored health of their friends, to Swamp-Root, the parks are regularly planted with orna- great kidney, liver and bladder remedy,

with fire-proof masonry and cement arches, not a piece of wood is used in its structure. It is situated on the most central and commanding site in the city, and has a frontage of 231 feet on Lewis Street, 345 feet on Chenango Street and 407 feet on Lackawanna Avenue; its floor space amounts to the astonishing area of four and one-half acres, and is to be devoted exclusively to the Swamp-Root business.

The building is eight stories high, built of steel, granite and light colored brick, and its architecture is of the most

pleasing style.

As is the present Laboratory, so will the new one be equipped with the very latest scientific apparatus for the compounding of Swamp-Root, the demand for which has so greatly increased that the mammoth new laboratory became an absolute necessity.

A convenient switch connecting with N. Y.

But when an hour later, I sat in the offices of Dr. Kilmer & Co. and had the pleasure of seeing many hundreds of the thousands of unsolicited testimonial letters, from all parts of the world-letters written by grateful men and women cured by Swamp-Root, I thought these people did just as you and I would do. They sat down and wrote their thanks for what Swamp-Root had done for them and asked that their testimonials be pubished in order that all might know of this wonderful medical discovery.

Having seen a little mountain of these

letters, each bearing the imprint of sin-cerity, no one would wonder that this business has increased as it has, and that the largest and finest laboratory in the world is needed and forthcoming.

It may be of interest to our readers to know that they can obtain free by mail, a sample bottle of Swamp-Root, by addressing Dr. Kilmer & Co., Binghamton,

Chrough Fields and Woodlands

BY N. HUDSON MOORE



No more the robin pipes his lay
To greet the flushed advance of morn;
He sings in valleys far away,
His heart is with the south today;
He cannot shrill among the corn.

For all the hay and corn are down, And garnered; and the withered leaf Against the branches bare and brown Rattles; and all the days are brief.

Henry Abbey.

The month of January, is, I think, the longest and most dreary for the out-of-doors lover and nature student to live through. Most of the birds that were left over from the autumn have flitted South, a state or two at least, and the first arrivals are tarrying till February before venturing into our snow-bound country. This is the month I take to make a census of nests, to hunt up winter homes of one variety and another, and to gather a skeleton bouquet which shall have various interesting little creatures asleep in it, whose coming will enliven dull days later on.

My first choice is always goldenrod branches, still pretty and graceful in their old age, and many of them bearing on the stem a round ball, which was made by a hard working mother as a snug winter bed for her eggs, which by this time have grown into the chrysalis state, and in the spring will emerge from the ball a little insect with gauzy wings. There is the oak-gall too, and on the tall sweet clover curious bags may be found with a very small neck, and woven of a pale brown silk waterproof and cold-tight. These are hung there by a spider, and in May or perhaps a little earlier, I look out for a hundred or more little spiderlings which grow with a rapidity, and get over the ground with a celerity which is simply amazing.

But best of all my winter bouquets are those twigs from which dangle a heavy cocoon, sometimes as long as my finger and large around in proportion, or some fat and chunky with a leaf neatly bound about it to deceive birds and nature student into thinking it but a dried leaf. These two varieties of cocoons are the most common.

and yet it will take considerable searching to find them, though in nature work it is always the unexpected which happens, and you may walk miles with observant eyes, hunting over bushes and twigs for these elusive cocoons, and then come home discouraged and find them on the bushes in your neighbor's or your own dooryard!

• The two kinds we refer to are members of the Giant Silkworm family, and are the Attacus Cecropia and Attacus Prometheus, and when they emerge as the perfect insect are two of our finest moths. The moth will often measure six inches across its expanded wings which are most beautifully feathered, and ornamented with spots and bands. The silk of which the cocoon is made is extremely

tough, and you fairly need a knife to separate it from its twig. The two cocoons are quite different and you can tell at a glance which variety you have merely by the shape and way it is attached to its branch. The Cecropia does not often use a leaf, and the cocoon is spun and attached by its long side to the branch. In the autumn the color

of the silk is pale brown, but after the leaves drop off, it soon withers, and becomes a dull gray which renders it much less conspicuous. The chrysalis inside the cocoon is a fat morsel, and

much beloved by the hungry and wandering bird, who extracts it from its silken bag much as we would shell a nut.

The cocoon of the Prometheus is, on the other hand, often quite securely hidden by two or three leave within which the silk is cleverly spun, and the silk, tough and fibrous binds the leaf to the twig where it originally grew, and this gives the



A WINTER BOUQUET.

cocoon firm anchorage. I look for the cocoons on cherry, willow, sassafras or spicewood bushes, generally low down, sometimes very near the ground, while the Cecropia chooses higher branches, often tantalizingly out of reach. If you keep these cocoons in a warm room they will emerge early in the season and you will turn the cocoon over wonderingly, for it seems impossible that so small a hole as you will find in the top of the cocoon will allow so large an insect to emerge. It moistens the silk before it begins to wriggle out, so that it is quite pliable, and it rather slides out for it is very moist and its beautiful great wings are wet and dark. Vigorous fanning dries them and brings out the colors, and it seems a pity that the life of such a lovely creature should be so brief.

All the bird's nests are laid bare, and open to inspection as to how they are put together and what they are made of. If you do not care to

gather the nests you can count how many there are in given localities, how they stand the weather, and roughly what birds have built them. The hanging cradle of the oriole is never to be mistaken, the mud-lined bowl of the robin tells its maker very plainly, and by its daintiness you can generally name the home of the summer yellow bird. Start at the heart of a

low-bird. Start at the heart of a city and walk a mile towards the outskirts and note when the bird's begin to nest, and you will see how fast they increase after the first bird

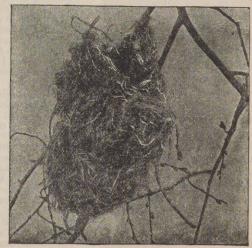


has planted a home, as if it said, "I do not dare go any nearer to the centre of things." As for a village street, the birds fairly love it, food is easily come at, water too generally, and they have also a sense of protection. As for the trolley with its clanging bell I almost fancy they delight in it, for when I follow up a street where it runs I often find more nests than in a more secluded thoroughfare.

You will find that robins seldom choose a tree where there are other nests. Orioles on the contrary do not seem to mind building in company, with others of their kind, and I found four orioles nests in one large elm, but I think one of them was two years old, it had a very ragged appearance. One seldom sees a bit of horsehair anywhere about, even in barnyards, yet fully ninety out of every hundred nests have some of this useful building material in them. The mystery is where the birds find it, and how they come across the bits of string with which so many nests are strengthened and fastened to the branch. Newspaper is often found, and I heard of three thrushes, nests which were found in one neighborhood, and each one had for its lining a piece of rice paper. Telegraph ticker-paper, cotton from hospitals, rope, human hair, wool, silk, bits of thread and cloth, snake-skin, onion peelings, feathers, grass, yarn, all go into the construction, and last year I saw a paint pot with paint and brush still in it, a cigar box, a rubber shoe, the crotch in a drain pipe, and wagon ruts all utilized as nesting sites.

One very interesting sight which is worth travelling miles to see is a crow-roost, but of course they are few and far between, one sufficing for all the crows living within many miles. There is such a rooost within a few miles of the city of Rochester, and there at dusk come thousands and thousands of crows, flying in such dense bands that in the distance they seem like a great cloud.

(Continued on page thirty.)



ORIQLE'S NEST.



THE MOTHER'S MEETING

By Victoria Wellman

"God could not be everywhere—so He made Mothers."

Hundreds of stars in the lovely sky, Hundreds of shells on the shores together, Hundreds of birds that go singing by, Hundreds of birds in the sunny weather, Hundreds of dewdrops to greet the dawn, Hundreds of bees in the purple clover, Hundreds of butterflies on the lawn, But only one mother the wide world over.

Some Thoughts for the New Year.

If thou canst not make thyself such an one as thou wouldst, how canst thou expect to have another in all things to Thomas A' Kempis. thy liking?

It requires far more of the constraining love of Christ to love our cousins and neighbors as members of the heavenly family, than to feel the heart warm to our suffering brethren Selected. in Tuscany or Africa.

The religion that fosters intolerance needs another Christ to die for it.

Reecher.

To be trusted is a greater compliment than to be loved. Truth is violated by falsehood, and it may be equally outraged by silence. Ammian.

When you pray for any virtue you should cultivate the virtue as well as pray for it; the form of your prayer should be the rule of your life.

Jeremy Taylor.

Nature sent women into the world with this bridal dower of Love for this reason, that they might be, what their destination is, mothers, and love children, to whom sacrifices must ever be offered and from whom none are to be obtained. Richter.

This world is God's world after all. Charles Kingsley.

Too many have no idea of the subjection of their temper to the influence of religion, and yet what is changed if the temper is not? If a man is as passionate, sullen, resentful, moody, or morose after his conversion as before it, what is he converted from or J. A. James.

Oh! many a shaft, at random sent, Finds mark the archer little meant: And many a word, at random spoken, May soothe or wound a heart that's broken. Walter Scott.

He prayeth best who loveth best All things both great and small. Coleridge.

Poverty is the only load which is the heavier the more loved ones there are to assist in supporting it.

Richter.

Pluck wins, it always wins.

Blessed are the peace makers: for

they shall be called the children of Matthew 5:9. One good mother is worth a hun-

dred schoolmasters. George Herbert. The greatest misfortune of all is not to be able bear misfortune.

Selected

Let us be merciful as well as just. Longfellow.

How immense to us appear the sins we have not committed.

Madame Necker.

Busy Mothers.

How many of you have tried, ere now, pinning up where your eye rests as appeal to their peculiar needs and on it when doing the drudgery parts follow my plan. If anyone should of housework, some short verse or find some heartsease thus I shall be poem which you cut out because its words spoke the cheer, gave the warning or offered sympathy such as you needed oftener than even your dearest and nearest could guess? 'Tis aptly said, "A verse may find him for a babe born to the purple or to the whom a sermon flies." It has been the most helpful habit of my life, beginning away back when attending sixth of happy hopes. It should also college, where I had the grand good fortune to have as roommate an older, wiser, more cultured girl than the common lot allows. Few can realize the molding power of such a person from experience, there are some reupon a young, impetuous nature. She vised old ideas such as swaddling it was who coaxed me into learning a clothes up to the three month's pedaily short verse and often these re- riod. And very happy and healthy turn to me unexpectedly. When I found my daily cares were reducing very economical their downy nests, me mentally to a real drudge it occurred to me to pin up bright verses before my eyes for inspiration. Be-

cause it was so helpful I urge many to cut out such of these ' Thoughts' very glad to know of it.

The Young Mother.

Just what a layette shall contain depends—depends on such facts as whether 'tis for winter or summer, gray, for a first born who does not fall heir to preceding toddlers or the depend on a mother's strength and time.

There are many new ideas and of these I have already indorsed some are the nestlings, and most lovely and when the new-old swaddling clothes are used. For winter babies and for

(Continued on page sixteen.)



BOTTLE SENT ABSOLUTELY FREE TO ANY READER

It will cost you nothing to test the merits of this wonderful remedy. We are so positive of the remarkable curative properties of "5-DROPS" that we have decided to distribute absolutely free of charge 100,000 trial bottles, in order that it may be given a test by sufferers without any expense to them whatever. It has never failed to do all and more than we claim for it, and we know that if you will but give it a trial you will acknowledge that "5-DROPS" is the medical wonder of the century.

Cut out the coupon in this advertisement and send direct to Swanson Rheumatic Cure Co., with your name and address, and a bottle of "5-DROPS" will be mailed to you at once. All that we ask you in return is that you take it as directed, and you will find it all that we claim. You need not feel under any obligations whatever in securing the trial treatment which we offer. Here is an opportunity to test a remedy without any expense to you. Certainly nothing can be fairer than this. Send for a bottle today.

It never fails to cure Rheumatism in any of its forms or stages of development. It makes no suffering from Inflammatory, Nervous, Muscular or Articular

Rheumatism. "5-DROPS" if used as directed will give instant relief and effect a permanent cure.

Unlike other preparations, "5-DROPS" is an internal and external remedy combined, and will afford early relief to the sufferer by application to the afflicted parts, while a cure is being affected by its use internally. Rheumatism is a blood disease, nothing more or less, and it is an utter impossibility to drive it out of one's system by simply an external application. Liniments, oils, etc., may give relief, but the disease will return at the first opportunity unless the cause (uric acid in the blood) is destroyed, and the blood is thoroughly cleansed of this poisonous matter. Any physician will tell you that the only way to cure Rheumatism is to remove the cause. That is exactly what "5-DROPS" does.

PROOF OF THE CURATIVE POWER OF "5-DROPS"

I got more relief from a bottle of "5-DROPS" than I got from \$25.00 worth of medicine from doctors. I am satisfied that doctors cannot cure Rheumatism. I have had it for nine years, and have spent a great deal of money, but got no relief until I got "5-DROPS." It did me more good than all the other medicines I took.

I have been afflicted for ten years with Rheumatic pains. Nothing ever did me any good until I began using your "5-DROPS." Before I had used the first bottle I was greatly relieved, at I can heartly recommend it to all needing such a remedy.

Yours truly, J. A. MCRRISON. Webb, Miss.

"5-DROPS" RELIEVES INSTANTLY

Sleeplessness, Kidney and Liver Troubles, Nervousness, Malaria, Rheumatism, Catarrh, Gout, Asthma, La Grippe, Neuralgia, Lumbago, Sciatica, Heart Weakness, Dyspepsia, Toothache, Earache, Backache, Headache and all other Diseases of the Blood, Nerves and Muscles.

No other remedy in the world will cleanse the blood so effectually as "5-DROPS." It removes all of the poisonous matter from the blood, at the same time acting as a tonic, building up the whole system, not as a stimulant, but in a gradual and natural way. It feeds every portion of the body, gives strength, vigor and vitality to the wear and worn out. It will restore the vital forces quicker than any other remedy It acts on the heart powerfully, yet harmlessly, causing it to increase its action, and do its work in a natural manner. Weak, irregular heart action is frequently the cause of blood diseases, the blood becoming sluggishand impure if the heart fails to do its work properly.

"5-DROPS" WILL CURE LIVER AND KIDNEY TROUBLES

"5-DROPS" co-operates with the stomach actions, and a healthy digestion is therefore certain. It restores the liver to a normal condition more quickly than any other known remedy. It cleanses the kidneys removing from the blood the impure matter produced in it through improper action of the kidneys. It never fails to remove the poisons which are invariably the sause of the disease.

FOR SALE BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

Large size bottle (300 doses) for \$1.00. If it is not obtainable in your locality order from us direct and we will send it prepaid

GET A BOTTLE OF SWANSON'S "5-DROPS" TODAY.

SWANSON RHEUMATIC CURE CO., 160 Lake St., Chicago.



TRADE MARK

My Treasure

An Interesting Story In Six Chapters

CHAPTER I.

MY COUSIN PHILIP.

I am a very ill-used woman, and the worst of it is that I cannot indulge in a good fit of ill-temper, because I have professed to be delighted, and moreover, in one way I am delighted. Yet now that the excitement is over, I have a distinct feeling that I have been ill-used, not by any one in particular, but by circum-I think it might relieve my stances. feelings to write the story of my woes. "Mary, give me my blottingpad, please" -- there I go again. No Mary answers me, nor will answer me any more. Well, I can reach my writing things, as it happens, so I shall set to work at once.

I am a middle-aged woman (on the wrong side of middle age, so to speak) and a writer of novels. Once for all, let me say, a successful writer. years ago I met with an acceident which crippled me for life. I was alone in the world, and when I had recovered as completely as I ever shall, I had to consider what I should do to make my life tolerable. Hitherto I had gone a good deal into society, but that was over now. I ought to say that although I am not poor, I am not very well off, and I write in order to add to my income. I began to think that I would set up a secretary or companion. I have always been a scrupulously careful writer, never describing a place without visiting and examining it. I wanted my companion to do this for me now, therefore she must not be a mere girl. She must be musical. She must read

"Send Help"

If You Are Sick, Ask Me to Send You Help.

That is all—just a postal. No money is wanted. ive me the name of the sick one and tell me

That is all—just a postal. No honey is wanted. Give me the name of the sick one and tell me which book to send
I will mail with it an order on your druggist for six bottles of Dr. Shoop's-Restorative. You may take it a month at my risk. If it succeeds, the cost is \$5.50. If it fails, I will pay the druggist myself—and your mere word shall decide it.
Every week thousands of sick ones accept this offer of mine, and 39 out of each 40 pay for the treatment gladly, because they get well. I am ready to cure you, and the remedy shall not cost you a penny if I fail. Don't wrong yourself by delay.

delay. I cure by strengthening the inside nerves, and my Restorative is the only remedy that does it. I have spent my life in perfecting it. I make the weak organ strong by bringing back its nerve power—the power that operates it—the only power that can make it do its duty. In most of these diseases there is no other way to obtain leasting reliaf these diseases there is these diseases there is lasting relief.

My book will tell you why.

Book N

Book N

Simply state which book you want, and address Dr. Shoop, Box 424, Racine, Wis.

Book No.1 on Dyspepsia, Book No.2 on the Heart, Book No.3 on the Kidneys, Book No.4 for Women, Book No.5 for men, (sealed, Book No.6 on Rheumatism

Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

well. She must have an angelic temper, because I have no such thing. In fact, she must be a treasure! And rather than have any one who did not seem likely to prove a treasure, I would get on alone as best I could.

I was hard at work embodying these wants in the form of an advertisement, when a knock at the streetdoor made me hastily conceal my paper: it was not to every visitor that I would give so good an opportunity of laughing at me.

"Will you see Mr. Mauleverer, ma'am?" inquired my parlor-maid, and in a moment more he was in the

My cousin Philip-the Honorable Philip Mauleverer, to give him his full distinction-was the only son of my first cousin, Lord Mauleverer. In his early days he had been one of the most delightful young men you can imagine. Gay, kindly, bright, and clever-very clever, they told me. forget the record of his Oxford suc cesses, but it was a good one. He was also a first-rate cricketer, and a splendid horseman, as' befitted his name. He was particularly proud of his driving, and many a time have I suffered a small martyrdom perched up beside him in a high, sketchylooking vehicle, while he made his two frisky Irish horses spin alongdriving tandem, too, a thing which I think ought only to be lawful in very quiet country places. That was-let me see-ten years cr so before my accident. Philip was making holiday then, having left college, and not yet having got the appointment in the diplomatic service of which his father's services and his own promise had secured him an offer.

He was a splendid-looking fellow in those days. Not handsome, for his features were by no means regular, but he had such a winning look and such an irresistible smile—as full of glee and mirth as most laughs. He was very tall, and there was a look of easy strength about him that to look at him was quite refreshing.

I was very fond of Philip, and only that morning I had been thinking of those old days; and I suppose this made the change in him strike me more than usual. He looked as strong as ever, and as kind, yet he was changed so utterly that it was hard to believe that he was the same man. It was hard to say in what the change consisted. Something was gone, that had made the brightness of his face; something was added, that made his smile as sad as once it had been gay. His eyes had a patient look in them, and his voice had quite lost the old glad ring, and was level, gentle, and

"Well, Frances?" he said, "how goes the world with you? What! have you betaken yourself to your pen already? You are certainly a brave woman!"

"I must write, you know, or leave this house and live in a very different way. Besides, I should miss the occupation. But I am only drawing up an advertisement now: I want a companion."

He took the half-written paper from under my pad, and read it: the shadow of his old smile passed over his face as he laid it down.

"Fan, why not say simply, 'I want something between an angel and a blue-stocking?' - it would save trouble."

"I know it is absurd; but if I can not get something like what I ask for, I shall rub on as best I can alone. I knew you would laugh at me, and you're dying to say, like some one I have heard of, 'If I find what you want, I shall make her my wife, not your companion.'

As I said the word wife, I knew what had been the trial that had changed Philip-his face betrayed him. Only his face—he answered in his usual tone.

"Remember, you are to write me an account of the interviews between you and those who are bold enough to reply to that challenge. I shall be very curious to hear of them."

"You are returning to Vienna, then?"

"Yes; my leave is over." And he sighed slightly.

"You think your father quite well? all at home well?" said I, rather anxiously.

"My father? he is surely the most wonderful man in England. To see him ride to hounds-he has not his equal in the fields, even yet"

"But, at his age, he ought to know "It is better," said I, laughing. surely too much for him. But your father is more of a boy than you are, Philip."

"Yes; there is not much of the boy left in me, is there? But, then, I am two-and-thirty-and a diplomatist, at vour service.'

"True; yet I could wish to see something of the bright young cousin who led me such a life when he first discovered my scribbling propensities, and that I wished them to remain secret for a time."

"What fun we had!" he said, in the same indescribably level way. 'Do you remember the morning when I persisted in reading a chapter of your first novel at the breakfast-table and my father thought I had gone crazy?'

"And said. 'I should not have

ANOTHER COMBINATION OFFER:

FARM NEWS, VICK'S MAGAZINE, GREEN'S FRUIT GROWER, POULTRY SCIENCE.

All four papers one year for \$1.00. There are others nearly as liberal on another page.



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20 PACKETS SEED

Pkt Evening Primrose Pkt Kudzu Vine Pkt Balloon Vine

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PAPER JARDINIERES, a New



Flower Pot Cover Adjustable to any size Flower Pots, (large or small). A pretty Flower Pots, (large or small). A pretty device to hide the unsightly appearance of the common flower pot. A protection from frost or heat. One dozen assorted colors and designs in nest folding box, convenient for mailing. Sent to any address.

Postpaid 30c per doz Send coin or money order. No stamp STRONGHURST MANU, F'G. CO., Stronghurst, Ill., U. S. A. Agents wanted

IT IS FREE TO TRY before you buy. Pearlery. Cures a cold in the head in five minutes. Cures chronic catarrh in thirty days. Send stamp for free

f treatment. G. A. WALKER, Rushsylvania, Ohio.

BEGIN THE NEW YEAR By saving money. Our Book of Many Bargains will help you to do so. Ten cents brings it with a neat gift for mother's work basket. POLLARD & COUTHWAY, Box C 454, Bloomington, Ill.

New Hats For Old!

LADIES! Use the Ideal Hat Shield and your hats will always look new. No more ugly punctures from the pin. No more hats blown off by the wind. No more hat pin lost by dropping out of the hat, With this little brass and rubber shield fastened in an instant to the ins de lining of the hat, where the point usually punctures after passing through the hair, you are happy. Gentlemen! Order a shield for some lady's hat today. You will make her happy. Every hat needs it. By mail postpaid 10 cents. Circulars free. Agents wanted. cents. Circulars free. Agents wanted., IDEAL HAT SHIELD CO., Ann Arbor, Mich.

Writers Wanted to copy at home. Send stamp.

Trick Coin Purse, sample 25c. silver. GEM CO., Box 131, DANVILLE, QUEBEC, CANADA.

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Man's or Woman's Size SOLID GOLD FILLED EN GRAVED
Case, American II ruby jeweled movement
(Right if preferred) Guaranteed 25 yrs.
This is only one of the premiums we
cive for useling our nills. Lists also in-CAN BE HAD FOR THE ASKING FOR SELLING ONLY 12 BOXES

SEND NO MONEY. WE TRUST YOU,
BEECHER PILL CO. 350 Beech





thought that sentimental stuff would have suited you, Philip.' '

in your wrath at 'the 'sentimental.' Those were happy days," he concluded, absently.

what I thought of you, Philip?"

"Of me? that I was a good model for the 'bold, bad man,' sinewy arms, muscular legs, and upon us by accident. Gve me a kiss columnar neck, I suppose."

"No; I thought that you had a secret, and that one day in the music speeds." room, when I had been singing for you, you were very near telling your You even said that I might help you, but Edith came in, and you said no more. Next day you left us. Phil, it seems to me that if you

"Stop Frances; no one can help You have guessed so much that I may as well be frank. I cannot speak of it-the grief that has clouded my life; but I can say this much, neither you nor any one else can help me. I must 'dree my weird.'

"O Philip! at your age?"

with me."

I could not help crying, for I was very fond of him.

"Dear Fan, how kind you are! wound has ceased to throb, I will tell you can show me.''

I dried my eyes and began to speak of other things, and he followed my lead with his usual gentle indifference. We talked of his younger sister's marriage, of his own profession and prospects.

"And you nearly betrayed yourself that you have not yet made your of people whom she would not name-

"I have none now-no ambition. I mean. I am very well as I am. Now "Yet, even then, do you know I must say goodby, dear Fan. I wish I left you as active as when I went to Vienna first; but that's a foolish with the speech, for these things do not come for old affection's sake, and mind you tell me how your advertisement

When I was alone, I cried again very heartily. I was full of pity and faithful friend and cousin all about of wonder (you can call it curiosity if you like) for it was plain that Philip had a story, and a sad one; and I name. knew.that not one of his own people suspected it. Presently I went back wanted help then, you want it more to my writing, pruned and altered, wrote and rewrote, sending finally a much shorter paper than my first, yet long enough to cost me a mint of

In a day or so answers began to pour in. I had desired the writers either to state their age or to send a recently done photograph. Well, I got thirty-eight letters in two days. Eight stated that the writer was "Life may be practically over at "under twenty," ten that she was no two and twenty," he said; "it was so longer in her first youth, while the "under twenty," ten that she was no rest sent photographs.

I ranged the twenty photographs weak from much suffering, and I am before me, and-did not see my treasure. Some were manifestly done years ago-the dress told me that. Some day, when I am so old that the In fact, there were but three of my unknown correspondents whom I you all about it. Till then, let me wished to see. So I wrote my thirty be silent; that is the only kindness eight letters, and stopped the appearance of my advertisement, which, however, did not save me from both sofa thinking whether a new and less visits and letters. I began to wish I ambitious description of the wished had never advertised. Of the three for treasure might not be more sucladies I had asked to come to speak to cessful in luring her into my netme, one was at least seventy, and as such superior people are perhaps moddeaf as a post; another informed me est-when Essie appeared, saying-

"You used to have plenty of healthy | that she was herself a novelist, though, ambition," said I; "how comes it owing to the jealousy and unfairness not until we had become real friends name is Smith." -she had never yet published anything. The third, who said she was "under twenty," might with equal truth have said "under fifteen;" a mere school girl, who presently admitted that "Pa and Ma" knew nothing of her visit to me. But she was so tired of taking care of the children! To this aspirant I administered a long lecture, reducing her to tears; then I her; finally I sent her home in a very proper frame of mind. If it lasted, her mother had reason to bless my

Three weeks passed. I began to think there were no treasures to be want to be set right every time I opened my mouth. One lady even "quite a marvel of, intelligence," though unfortunately too delicate for

I'll do without a companion, really I am plagued to death about it, and not one of these people would suit

"Really, mem?" replied Essieand I changed my mind at once. I could not live without some more congenial companion than-"Really, mem."

CHAPTER II. MARY SMITH.

The next day I was lying on my

"A lady down-stairs, mem, wishes to know if you will see her? About the advertisement, mem: and her

"I've seen four Smiths already. Essie, do use your senses for once; is there any use in my seeing her.'

"Well, really, mem, I could not take upon me to say. Only-I wish you would see her, mem."

"Ah, well-bring her up," said I; and lay grumbling to myself that these interviews would be the death of me. For though I do not care to had to give her tea and cake to console dwell on it, it was hard to meet so many pairs of anxious eyes, only to disappoint them.

"Miss Smith, mem," said Essie, and a lady came up the room. It is a long room, and I lay by the fire, at the end farthest from the door. found. Friends began to send me was struck by the grace of her movetheir "former governesses," but I ments—and then I saw, in spite of a would not have a governess. I did not painfully shabby jacket, that she had a figure so perfect that she could not have been awkward if she tried. recommended her own maid, who was old, poor, black silk dress-but very neat; a summer cloth jacket, and there was snow on the ground!

I observed all this as she came slowly toward me; she stopped at, a Essie," said I to my servant, "for little distance from my sofa, and

"Miss Mauleverer, I believe?"

The most delicious voice! so soft, so clear; a very young voice too, and I looked up eagerly in her face. I fairly started. Anything so thin, so pinched and wan, I had never seen; and her hair, which was very thick and wavy, was perfectly white.

"Won't you sit down?" said I. "Take that low chair. It is a bitter

day.''
'I have called because I saw your advertisement, Miss Mauleverer. it is only fair to tell you that I have no recommendations. I can give no references.

(Continued on page twenty-seven.)



Suggestions for January.

the strawberry plants were not mulched earlier do not neglect it now. Remember that the next crop depends on the plants being in good condition when blooming time comes. If they are not right then the fruit will be correspondingly scarce and poor. A sled will carry coarse manure or other mulching material, where there is snow or frozen ground, safely over the rows. It will do good and no harm to scatter it right over the snow, but put it lightly right over the center, where the plants are thickest.

mice about the roots of the fruit trees during the snowy weather. They will often do a lot of mischief before there is any thought of danger. They only work under a covering, and whether this be grass, mulch or snow that is close to the bases of the trees they are almost sure to gnaw off the tender bark when other food is scarce. It is the short tailed ground mice that do this mischief. The preventive measures are, to clear away all grass and trash for at least a foot in every direction. When snow falls it should be tramped hard while it is soft, and especially if it is damp.

I Will Cure You of RHEUMATISM

Else No Money Is Wanted.

After 2,000 experiments. I have learned how to eure Rheumatism. Not to turn bony joints into flesh again: that is impossible. But I can cure the disease always, at any stage, and forever.

I ask for no money. Simply write me a postal and I will send you an order on your nearest druggist for six bottles Dr. Shoop's Rheumatic Cure, for every druggist keeps it. Use it for a month and, if it succeeds, the cost is only \$5.50. If it fails, I will pay your druggist myself.

I have no samples, because any medicine that can affect Rheumatism quickly must be drugged to the verge of danger. I use no such drugs, and it is folly to take them. You must get the disease out of the blood.

My remedy does that, even in the most difficult. obstinate cases. No matter how impossible this seems to you, I know it and I take the risk. I have cured tens of thousands of cases in this way, and my records show that 39 out of 40 who get those six bottles pay gladly. I have learned that people in general are honest with a physician who cures them. That is all I ask. If I fail, I don't expect a penny from you.

Simply write me a postal card or letter. I will send you my book about Rheumatism, and an order for the medicine. Take it for a month, as it won't harm you any way. If it fails, it is free. and I leave the decision with you. Address Dr Shoop, Box 424, Racine, Wis.

Mild cases, not chronic, are often cured by one or two bottles. At all druggists.

This makes it compact and not easy children may be taught a useful lesson

Rabbits and Trees: - In some parts of the country rabbit are very bad about eating the bark from small fruit and other trees. They are especially bad on those just planted. I have seen whole orchards seriously injured in a few nights, and had a lot of sad experience of this kind in Kansas in my own orchards. The application of fresh liver, grease and various mix tures is only of temporary benefit. The rains will usually wash them off. The best thing of this kind that I ever used was Frazier's Axle Grease; but Mice and Trees: -Look out for the there are differences in these axle greases and one must be very careful to put on none that is injurious. Wrapping the bodies for a foot or more high with rags, paper. hay, or any material that can be put on easily and yet securely is the best preventive. The latter part of the winter is far the most dangerous from rabbits, for their food becomes very scarce in most sections and they will then eat what they would not touch in the early winter months. When all is covered with a crust of snow or ice, is the very worst time. Sometimes a few poor apples or potatoes or vegetables scattered about in the orchard will help to satisfy their hunger and prevent damage to the trees in time of a sudden and very severe spell. Poisoning them to kill the rabbits is dangerous to stock that may get the bated vegetables or fruit. Clover hay will also satisfy a rabbit's appetite.

Apple Root-Grafting:-While it is usually cheaper to buy apple trees to plant than to raise them, it is interesting and not very hard or difficult work to put up a few root grafts, just as the nurserymen do. If this is attempted it must be with seedling roots, such as they use and not those that may be dug up about large apple trees; for the latter will do no good. I have tried it thoroughly and so have many others. Cut the scions the first mild day and pack them in damp sawdust or moss in a cool cellar. Get a little fine cotton twist and after winding it into balls boil them in melted grafting wax. Splice six inch scions onto the upper cuts of the roots, about five inches long, and tie them together with the waxed thread. Bind them into small bundles, label securely and pack in damp sawdust or moss until springtime. Plant in nursery rows, leaving the tops about two inches above ground and cultivate well all summer. In this way the

Mulching Strawberries:-If any of for the mice to dig or burrow through. and some nice trees, true to name, can be grown at home with little expense. Trees of varieties that cannot be bought may be secured in this way.

How to Eat the Pomelo.

The large, lemon-colored citrus fruit that we see in the fruit stores is really very appetizing and delicious when once we understand how to eat it. Well do I remember that some two years ago it was almost impossible to sell pomelos for enough to pay their freight charges from Florida to our northern markets. The public had not then learned how good they were, and mainly, because they did not know how to eat them. then this has become the highest in price of all the citrus fruits, sometimes selling at wholesale for \$10 or \$12 per box. Its culture has extended to California, where it is usually called by its right name pomelo and not the senseless one 'grape-fruit.'' But the Florida product seems to be the best.

The rind of the pomelo, unlike that of the citron, orange and most lemons, is quite bitter and far from pleasant to the taste. It should never be handled with the fingers in such a way as to get it into the mouth. The fruit should be cut in two crosswise of its axis, the seeds removed and the pulp and juice eaten with a spoon. Some like it sprinkled with sugar, but this is all a matter of taste. One soon learns to like the slightly bitter flavor. There is no fruit that is more wholesome, and for malarious troubles it is almost a specific remedy.

The Black Ben Davis .- The Gano Controversy.

It has been a matter of sharp contention for some time past as to whether or not there were one or two varieties of apples going under the two names Gano and Black Ben Davis. I was long in doubt on this point myself, and from the samples of the fruit I had seen up to this Fall, believed they were only two names for the same variety, or two of separate origin that were indistinguishable. The first three days of last October I spent in Wash-(Continued on page twenty-six)

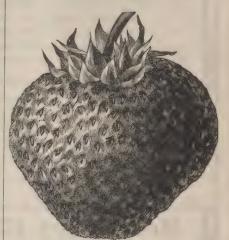
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We ship nothing inferior. We seek the trade of people who know it pays to plant best varieties, bred from sound stock, shipped in right condition. Write for free catalog.

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No farmer, fruit or vegetable grower can afford to be without one. They increase crops both in quantity and quality, and double your yearly profit.

TO AGENTS: \$20.00 A DAY is what one new agent made. Another has

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The Bright Eyed Circle

Conducted by Stella M. Anderson.

If you'll sing a song as you go along,
In spite of the real or the fancied wrong,
In spite of the doubt, if you'll fight it out,
And show a heart that is brave and stout;
If you'll laugh at the jeers and refuse the tears
You'll force the ever reluctant cheers
That the world denies when a coward cries,
To give to the man who bravely tries;
And you'll win success with a little song—
If you'll sing the song as you go along.

Birthday Rhyme for January. By her who in this month is born, No gems save Garnets should be worn; They will insure her constancy, True friendship and fidelity.

Happy New Year! Can it really be 1903? Father Time seems to run now-a-days. All my Bright Eyes are out sleighing or skating during school holidays I presume and only at night gather round a lamp to read Vick's Family Magazine. I imagine some of you saying, "Well if here isn't more about that Polly again!"

Yes, your Aunt Stella is anxious to stir up such a lot of you that it will fill her desk full with your nice little letters and the stories you copied about birds. And such nice "fillers" for Aunt Stella's Scrapbook! Has any of you as many scrapbooks as your Aunt? Well I consider good scrapbooks equal to an Encyclopedia in the amount you learn from them. Reading those big books is dry work sometimes, but a scrapbook is interesting. Now, I think a scrapbook just full of clippings made by bright readers whom I can love, to thus remember, is the loveliest idea yet! No autograph album can equal it.

And then your rewards. Even selfish people may well consider what they get from their entering this contest. In the first place a postal with your name wins you the fine catalogue named in December as intensely interesting to me. You will find bird magazines, such as "Birds and Nature" or "American Ornithologist" offered very cheaply in clubs with Vick's. And, girls and boys, if you want to be modern and "up-todate," you simply must study birds-"it's all the style." You will find many stories about birds in daily papers and just look over your old magazines in the attic.

The two subscribers you must send are easily obtained, for "Vick's" is a name of long loved memories, and doing this shows your earnestness to succeed. You may send a few good clippings or many. You may be very young indeed and still have a strong chance. The prize may go to the one best or to the best collection of clippings. I shall examine with keen interest those collections which grow better and better and I should not be surprised if those who send collections

LEADING COMBINATION OFFER.

AMERICAN BOY. GOOD HOUSEKEEPING,

VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE,
GREEN'S FRUIT GROWER,
All four papers 1 year for \$1.50 Publisher's price
\$3.00. See other liberal offers on another page.

should win a very fine present extra. Collections may come one clipping at a time, only just number them, please.

Aunt Stella loves birds and flowers -especially pansies. She loves her young readers and longs to help them to learn many lovely truths about Nature; the greatest is-birds. Some of you may hear parents say parrots are noisy, nuisances! Well opinions differ. A nice gentle little girl will have a charming parrot whereas the same bird trained by roughness will act like its trainer. I consider them very interesting, and anything which helps create laughter at home is worth while. If parrots are nuisances, why are trained ones worth such large sums? Bird dealers tell me they sell easier than even canaries. Some of you seem not to understand my offer to be as valuable as it is. Then, too, consider the premium given for the two subscriptions. This is all explained in the November issue. You lose nothing, learn much about birds, and may win a valuable prize. Some one will.

Here's a poem which just fits the So many will not even try becase. cause all they do is done "just anyhow."

The Land of Anyhow.

Beyond the isle of What's-the-use, Where Slipshod Point is now, There used to be, when I was young, The land of Anyhow.

Don't Care was King of all this realm, A cruel King was he, For those who served him with good heart He treated shamefully.

When boys and girls their tasks would slight, And cloud poor mother's brow, He'd say, "Don't care! It's good enough! Just do it anyhow!"

But when in after life they longed To make proud fortune bow, He let them find that fate ne'er smiles On work done anyhow.

And in all love I copy for you the following as most suited to New Year's day reading.

There are ten things for which no one has ever yet been sorry. These are: - For doing good to all. For speaking evil of none. For hearing before judging. For thinking before speaking. For holding an angry tongue. For being kind to the dis-For holding an angry tressed. For asking pardon for wrong doing. For being patient to everyone. For not listening to a tale bearer. For not believing most of the ill-reports.

An Unfinished Story.

Note.—All of you are asked to compete. Write the ending to this story of Sammie's New Year Resolutions. Tell what faults you think a good honest twelve year old boy would cure in himself if he once said, "I won't" in grim earnest. What three of these faults do you believe are most dangerous to boys who really mean to become good men some day? (Continued on page eighteen)

Girls, Do you wish to earn a beautiful Bisque Doll, also a lovely bracelet and ring? If so, send us your FULL name and address and we will send 20 cards of address and we will send 20 cards of our jewelry novelties, postpaid, sell them at 10 cents per card and return us \$2.00, and we will send you, all charges prepaid, one of the most beautiful dolls ever given away, together with a beautiful torquoise bracelet and a gold finished ring. This doll is nearly

ONE-HALF YARD TALL

and has a turning bisque head, lovely curly hair, pearly teeth, natural sleeping eyes, jointed body, real slippers, stockings, etc., and is completely dressed from head to foot. Understand this is not a printed cloth or rag doll. doll, or a cheap plaster of Paris doll, such as some concerns give, but a real sleeping BISQUE DOLL nearly

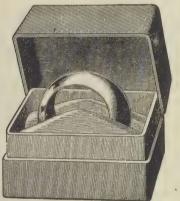
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Doughs and Batters By Mrs. G. T. Drennan

"We may live without poetry, music or art; We may live without conscience, and live without heart, We may live without friends, we may live without books, But civilized man cannot live without cooks."

Owen Meredith struck the keynote when he touched his harp and sang the importance of cooks. The health and happiness of families depend in great measure upon the art of cooking. It is a comprehensive science, all points being of importance. A failure to understand terms and to misapply directions in one thing involves failure in the excellence of the whole, in cookery. For instance, buckwheat cakes and rolls are wanted for breakfast; bread and pudding for dinner, and wafers or beaten biscuits for lunch. Rolls. bread, wafers, and beaten biscuits are made of dough. Liquid ingredients, such as milk, eggs, water, melted butter or lard, are proportioned to the flour so that it can be kneaded with the hands, and either shaped into rolls, loaves of bread, or rolled to the desired thickness and cut into wafers or biscuits.

Dough and batter are essentially different. Cakes, waffles, muffins and puddings as well as flannel, buckwheat and griddle cakes are all made of batter. A thick or thin batter is not at all indefinite to an experienced cook. Muffins are made of thick batter. That is, a batter that must be dippd up with a spoon, and droppd into the rings or pans. Fritters are not quite as thick as muffins, but fritter batter must be thick enough to drop from the spoon, in which case it will cling to sliced apples, bananas, or whatever the batter is to cover. Fritter batter comes between muffins and waffle batter. Waffles must be of thin batter. The term thin means of a consistency to pour. Griddle cakes and waffles are light and tender when made of batter thin enough to pour. Buckwheat cakes are light and tender when of the thickness of fritter batter.

It is best to test a given recipe without changing an item. If the test is unsatisfactory, the wise cook takes the matter under consideration. Circumstances make for, or against, recipes. Batter in cold weather, for instance, will be thicker than of the same proportions in warm weather. Flour differs also. The oftener flour is sifted the lighter the dough or batter. Dough requires more kneading in cold than in warm weather. The ingredients are stiffer and less assimalative in cold than in warm weather.

A recipe may be strictly correct in theory and in the rules governing proportions, yet the proper consistency of the dough or batter must be obtained by the circumstances or conditions, say, of thick cream or thin milk; eggs well frothed or otherwise; old or new process flour or the temperature of the kitchen-all this leaves considerable judgment for the cook to exercise. Dough as soft as can be handled makes the best rolls, bread, and biscuit, where yeast or baking powder are used. Beaten biscuit and pastry are best made of dough as stiff as possible to work. The less baking powder biscuit dough is handled the better; but the more beaten biscuit dough is kneaded and Dough for beaten beaten the nicer the biscuits. biscuits may be beaten until it blisters and when pulled and broken will snap, but not stretch. Yeast and baking This is unleavened bread. powder breads are leavened. The scientific principle, in all dough making and baking, is to incorporate air in every possible way.

same is true of batters. By sifting the flour repeatedly, and thoroughly mixing the ingredients of dough, beating the eggs, whites and yolks separately, and all the other ingredients until the batter, before the eggs are added, will bubble, the process of fermentation or formation of dioxide gas does its work effectually.

One kind of bread is never anything but batter. Thick and thin batter are made of Indian corn meal, but never dough. The term "batter bread" is synonymous with corn meal bread. It is of secondary importance, but quite essential for a good and wholesome variety. Egg bread of corn meal is quickly beaten up and in twenty minutes will bake, with crisp, light brown top and bottom crust. Spoon bread is corn meal bread that is a batter, baked in a deep bowl and served in the same, dipped out with a spoon. The following is an old Southern formula for spoon bread that suits the most fastidious appetite:

One cup of sifted corn meal; three cups of boiling water; three cups of buttermilk; two eggs; one teaspoonful of soda; one teaspoonful of salt and one-half tablespoonful of melted lard. Beat the ingredients well together, and pour into a baking bowl. Bake in a quick oven until brown over the top. In the first place, stir the meal and boiling water together until cool enough for the other ingredients.

Corn meal bread requires more milk and eggs than flour, but less butter or lard. Corn meal products all require a quick fire. As a rule dough in all forms requires steady but moderate heat, and batter a quick fire. Although made of dough, biscuits and light bread should not be baked at the same time. The thickness of the loaf requires a longer time to bake. Thin biscuits, corn egg bread and muffins require about the same heat. A quick oven suits them. Rolls of small pocket book size require a quick oven. They should be well risen and started to baking as soon as put in the oven.

Sally Lunn comes between dough and batter. It is, strictly speaking a soft, spongy dough that must rise and bake steadily and not too fast.

Cake comes under the head of batter, but the subject of cake making and baking is sufficiently comprehensive for a separate article.

BEATEN BISCUIT.

Of course I'll gladly give the rule I meks beat biscuit by, Dough I ain't sure dat you will mek Dat bread the same as I.

'Case cookin's like religion is— Some s 'lected, and some a n't. An' rules don't no more mek a cook Den sermons mek a saint.

Well, 'bout the 'gredience required I needn't mention dem, Of course you knows of flour an' things, How much to put, an' when;

But soon as you is got that dough Mixed up all smoove an' neat, Den's when your genius gwine to show, To get dem biscuit beat!

Two hundred licks is what I gives
For home-folks, never fewer,
An' if I'm 'spectin' company in
I gives five hundred sure.

Bandanna Ballads.

Vick's three years for \$1.00.

TEN WAYS TO SERVE OYSTERS.

Each a Good Way.

Raw Oysters.—Along the Gulf Coast, in New Orleans, Mobile and other markets, the law requires oysters, when taken from the oyster beds, to be two and one-half inches from hinge to mouth. At that size, they are fine, and although even one oyster is a good bit of food, five or six raw ones are considered enough for each person served.

Lay the oysters on a salad saucer, and have a quarter of lemon on each. The juice can be squeezed over the oysters by each person, to their taste.

Raw Oysters on Ice.—Heat the bowl of a large kitchen spoon and lay it on a small square of ice, to melt a hollow in the center. Lay the raw oysters in the hollow of the ice-block, and serve on plates, one to each person, allowing five or six oysters to each piece of ice.

Tomato sauce, vinegar, cut lemon and Worcestershire sauce are the condiments each person can choose from, to season the raw oysters.

Oyster Soup.—Allow as much new milk as there is of oyster water, which is salt enough. Boil the milk in one vessel the broth in another. Boil the oysters in the broth until the edges curl up, all around. Then mix milk and broth, oysters and a spoonful of butter, with black pepper, in a hot soup tureen. If crackers are liked with the soup, break several into bits, in the tureen before the soup is poured in, and by all means serve the soup hot, on soup plates just out of the heater.

Rich Oyster Soup.—One pint of sweet cream; one quart of oysters; one-half pint of white stock; two ounces of butter; one ounce of flour; one teaspoonful of ground black pepper and a salt spoonful of cayenne. Drain the broth or liquor from the oysters and put it to boil in a vessel by itself, melt the butter and stock in a sauce pan; stir in the flour and pour in the cream. When the liquor is boiling, drop the oysters in, and let them boil until the edges all turn up; then pour all the ingredients together into a hot tureen and serve.

Broiled Oysters.—Drain the oysters from the liquor and roll them in a cloth to dry. Have a batter of flour, eggs, sweet milk, butter, pepper and salt. Dip the oysters, one by one, into the mixture, and then roll them in cracker-dust. Let them dry for half an hour in the cracker-dust, then put them into the quite hot broiler, lightly greased, and broil five or ten minutes.

Fried Oysters.—Drain, dry, and dip in batter. Roll in cracker-dust and dry again. Have enough very hot lard to cover the oysters and fry them an even brown, on both sides. Drain in an inverted cieve.

Oysters on the Half Shell.—Wash and wipe the shells. Lay them in a hot oven, with the upper shell downwards to prevent the liquor escaping. As soon as the shells open, the oysters are done. Lay the half shell on hot dishes, and season each oyster with pepper, butter and tomato or Worcestershire sauce. Horse radish grated, with vinegar is liked by many persons, with roasted oysters.

Oyster Pates.—Stew the oysters in their own broth or liquor, thicken with flour, season with butter and pepper. Have puff pastry baked in gem pans, patty pans, or any small pan, two inches deep. Lay the seasoned oysters in the pastry shells and dust them over with pepper. An egg or two improves pates. Either chop hard boiled eggs and mix, or beat one or two into the liquor the oysters are cooked in, before going on to the pastry shells.

(Continued on page twenty-two.)

In Winter Days.

The days have lost their brightness, and I feel the dreary pain

Of the winds that sigh around me-of the lonesome winter rain;

I have but remembered roses and the song of birds that seem

To be singing to me ever o'er the meadows of a dream.

I say: "Somewhere the gardens of the Spring are blooming bright,

And Morning dawns in splendor, and the Love-

stars light the night!'

But the flowers I loved are ashes, and no altarfires gleam

Where my soul is ever sighing for the meadows of a dream.

The dim days have no pity-no promise for the

The stars are stormed from heaven, and the clouds rain down their tears; For the face that made the morning has faded

with its beam, And the promise of the Springtime is the sadness of a dream.

F. L. Stanton.

Winter Evenings.

(Written for Vick's Family Magazine.)

With the first of January comes the settling down in earnest to the winter's duties. Up to Christmas there has been a restlessness, owing to the approach of the holidays, with their own peculiar pleasures. There have been presents to make, and festivities to plan; and for a short time after the new-year has started there is likely to be a sensation of flat-It comes from the transition ness. from the holiday gayety and excitement to the hum-drum work-a-day world.

The best remedy is steady and systematic work. There is nothing like a regular habit of employment for making the days fly swiftly and cheerfully. Pleasures become tiresome if too long indulged in, but a strong interest in any occupation generally insures continued good spirits to any man or woman in good health. If the old proverb holds good that "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy," the contrary is equally

Children, however, cannot be expected to take this view of the matter. To them amusement appears the chief end and aim of existence. They must be trained that pleasure is all the greater when it is the exception and not the rule of life. Parents should share in their children's occupations and show an interest in their home and school duties. The responsibilities of parents are not shifted when they have put their boys and girls in the charge of good teachers. The thing that is still lacking can only be found in the ready home sympathy that must await the child in all can be learned earlier in the day, so flapping of wings. "I am trying," no better way than this of making morning."

children familiar with good literature. Such books as "Historic Girls," and "Historic Boys," Hawthorne's 'Wonder Book'' and Tanglewood Tales;" "Stories from Homer and Virgil; "Young Folks Histories" and many other's give instruction in mythology, history and travel in such a charming manner that the child gains information without being aware of it. Nor need you limit them to children's books. With a little pains in selection most of the masterpieces may be read aloud to them. The elder children may take their turn in the reading and thus gain practice in that rare accomplishment. The fingers need not be idle. The mending and darning can be done more readily when the mind is diverted. This is a good time for making scrap books or mounting stamps, ferns or leaves. Boys can keep their fingers out of mischief by wood carving, drawing or painting. Every evening need not be passed in the same way. Some music, games in which all can join, apples, nuts and popcorn will give pleasure. By some thought, the long winter evenings may be made so delightful and the home so attractive that neither boys nor girls will feel tempted to leave the farm fireside for less wholesome pleasures. - Belle C. Estes.

The Apple Barrel.

It stood in the cellar low and dim. Where the cobwebs swept and swayed, Holding the store from bough and limb At the feet of autumn laid. And oft, when the days were short and drear And the north wind shrieked and roared. We children sought in the cornor, here, And drew on the toothsome hoard.

For thus through the long, long winter-time It answered our every call With wine of the summer's golden prime Sealed by the hand of fall. The best there was of the earth and air, Of rain and sun and breeze, Changed to a pippin sweet and rare By the art of the faithful trees

A wonderful barrel was this, had we Its message but rightly heard. Filled with the tales of wind and bee, Of cricket and moth and bird: Rife with the bliss of the fragrant June When skies were soft and blue: Thronged with the dreams of a harvest moon

O'er fields drenched deep with dew.

Oh homely barrel, I'd fain essay Your marvellous skill again; Take me back to the past, I pray, As willingly now as then:-Back to the tender morns and eves, The noontides warm and still,
The fleecy clouds and the spangled leaves. Of the orchard over the hill. -Edwin L. Sabin, in "New" Lippincott.

"What on earth are you doing in its worries and joys. The family here, Tommy?" asked his mother, sitting room should always be bright peering into the darkness of the henand cheery. A good light should be house, whence had been coming for provided. Each one should have his five minutes or more a series of dismal own chair or corner. If the lessons squawkings, accompanied by a loud much the better, but if not, a silent said Tommy, who seemed to be doing study hour should be observed. The something with a knotted rope, "to study time over, there may be a pleas- fix this rooster so his alarm won't go ant hour of reading aloud. There is off before seven o'clock tomorrow Chicago Tribune.

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BOOK NOTICES.

Sun Dials and Roses of Yesterday By Alice Morse Earle. In her charm ing. inimitable way Mrs. Earle tells the history, sentiment and charm of sun dials, making every reader long to possess one to "mark the sunny hours." Simple and exact rules for dial making are given, with hundreds of mottoes and designs, and the joys and disappointments of dial collecting are portrayed in interesting fashion. The chapters on roses most appropriately bring together, as Mrs. Earle says, "two garden delights." The book is profusely illustrated, with pictures of ancient, rare, and curious sun-dials and beautiful old-fashioned roses, and makes a fitting companion to Mrs. Earle's other fascinating work, 'Old Time Gardens.'' Published by The Macmillan Company, New York. Price \$2.50 net.

A Plea for Hardy Plants. By J. Wilkinson Elliott. The eminent superiority of hardy plants for adorning the grounds of country and city homes is most ably advocated by Mr. Elliott, a landscape architect of many years' experience. Tender bedding plants have been in the ascendency for a number of years, but the tide seems to have turned and more attention is now being paid to planting hardy perennials and shrubs. The amateur gardener will find this book of invaluable assistance, for a number of excellent plans for laying out grounds are given, as well as lists of desirable plants. A taking hollyhock design adorns the dark green cover and many beautiful photographic illustrations show what charming effects can be produced by intelligent study and planning. Doubleday. Page and Company, New York. Price, boards, net, \$1.60; paper, net, 80 cents.

English Pleasure Gardens. Rose Standish Nichols. Daintly bound in white and green and gold, the outward appearance of this book makes at once a favorable impression, and as one cuts the leaves the fine, large, clear type and the numerous illustrations strongly appeal to one's artistic sense. Every lover of a garden will thoroughly enjoy the descriptions of the classic pleasure grounds of the past, the Elizabethan flowergarden, the gardens of the Stuarts, the French fashions and the Italian villa gardens, as well as the chapter on modern gardens which brings the subject down to our own time and gives valuable suggestions on planning pleasure grounds. The concluding sentence: "Finally, a love of Flowers is the natural foundation on which to build all gardens, whether formal or informal," is particularly apt. The Macmillan Company, New York. Price \$4.00 net.

How to Make Money growing Violets. By George Saltford, Violet Specialist. The need of an inexpensive, condensed, practical book on violet growing has long been felt. The above named book seems to meet friends.

all these requirements: Simple instructions for preparing the soil, constructing hot-houses and cold-frames, planting, watering, cultivating, treatment of insects and diseases, picking, bunching and marketing are given. The book is particularly designed to encourage those of small means living in towns and villages to enter upon violet growing, assuring them that if they will follow the instructions given they will make the business a financial success. Published by the Violet Culture Company, 61 Quincy St,, Brooklyn, N. Y., Price 25 cents, postpaid.

Children's Gardens. By the Hon. Mrs. Evelyn Cecil. Though written more especially for English children, this book contains much thoroughly practical information for American girls and boys, of all sizes and ages. It is written in a simple, entertaining way, and cannot but inspire a desire to have a garden all to one's self in every child who reads it. The author truly says that "every child that tends a garden, no matter how small it may be, will watch the months with tenfold interest as the year passes from growth to decay, and back again to the dawn of new life and spring." The dainty cover in wedgwood blue and white and the fine illustrations make a very attractive book, a charming gift for a child. The Macmillan Company, New York, Price \$1.75.

The "Wild Flower Preservation Society of America," lately organized, is doing good work along the line of awakening people to the necessity of making an effort to preserve our native plants. A paper by the wellknown botanist, Mrs. Elizabeth G. Britton, on "How the Wild Flowers are Protected," names many of those which are protected by nature, calls attention to those which now particularly need the protection of man, and also tells of some which can still be reveled in without the fear of their absolute destruction before our eyes.

This paper should be in the hands of all teachers of nature study, as well as those interested in the preservation of our wild flowers. It can be obtained of the Secretary of the "Wild Flower Preservation Society," Mr. Charles Louis Pollard, 1854 Fifth St, N. W., Washington, D. C.

Benjamin Franklin

Published "Poor Richard's" Almanac for some twenty-five years. Instead of prophecies he en-livened the pages with maxims, many of his own making. One time during his travels he said: "Nothing gives me so much pleasure as to hear the people quoting my maxims." The following are from "Poor Richard's:

- "Lost time is never found again."
- "He who riseth late must trot all day." "There are no gains without pains."
- "The cat in gloves catches no mice."
 "Keep thy shop and thy shop will keep thee." "One today is worth two tomorrows."

One of the most interesting and startling pieces of medical literature we have ever seen is "The Nerve Force Journal" published by Mr. and Mrs. Geo. A. Corwin, 721 Mt. Morris Bank Bldg., New York. They will gladly send a copy free to any reader of Vick's who is sick or has sick

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VICK'S FAMILY MAGAZINE

January, 1903

Published by VICK PUBLISHING COMPANY.

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No name will be entered on our list unless paid at least six months in advance,

Remittances received from subscribers in arrears will be applied:

1. To pay arrears to date remittance is received.

2. The balance, if any, will be applied to advance subscription.

Vick's Family Magazine is published the first of each month. Should subscribers not receive their magazine promptly they will confer a favor by giving notice, thus enabling us to send another copy.

Discontinuances: Any subscriber wishing to stop the magazine must notify the publishers and pay up all arrears, otherwise he is responsible for payment as long as it is sent.

Change of Address: Should a subscriber wish his address changed he should give both the old and the new address, otherwise his name cannot be found. If your former postoffice has been discontinued on account of rural free delivery, notify us and state the correct postoffice to which to send the magazine now.

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Send Money by registered letter or in any safe way but do not send stamps unless absolutely necessary. Express orders cost no more than postoffice money orders. They can be procured at any express office and we prefer them. Make money orders payable to Vick Publishing Co. No checks accepted.

Please Notice. If this paragraph is marked, it is to notify you that your subscription expires with this issue. Let us have your renewal at our special rate of three years for \$1.00. We are confident you will be pleased with \(\frac{17}{100} \) with the future. As it is our custom to continue sending the magazine to all fubscribers until ordered discontinued, you will still receive it regularly, but we hope to receive your renewal fee by return mail.

Special Notice. This magazine is not connected in any way with any seed house. Be sure to address all correspondence to the Vick Publishing Company.

Advertising. Our magazine is recognized as one of the most profitable for general advertising. Guaranteed circulation 50,000. Rates 20c an agate line. Fourteen agate lines to the inch. The Magazine goes to press on the 15th of each month.

All subscriptions and advertisements should be forwarded to the

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62 STATE ST. ROCHESTER, N. Y

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EDITORIAL.

Fame comes only when deserved, and then it is as inevitable as destiny, for it is destiny.

Longfellow in Hyperion.

Enclosed find subscription, I have missed your dear little paper so much since I came here.-Mrs. E. T., Aopkins, Minn.

When writing to have address of magazine changed, be sure to give the old as well as the new address. Unless this is done, we cannot make the desired change.

Though some of us grumble and growl about our climate, and long for the sunny skies and balmy breezes of southern climes, yet, northeners do not always find the South as delightfully warm and pleasant as they expect. A lady of our acquaintance expressed herself in this way about her "I went South for the winter, and experience: found it." Really, there are worse things than northern winters, and if we make up our minds to six months of it, we will be agreeably surprised when spring shortens it up a little.

I love the visits of Vick's magazine and will certainly speak a good word for it whenever I have an opportunity.-Mrs. H. L., Gothenburg, Neb.

One of our most talented ministers not long since announced as the topic for his Sunday sermon "Tools and their users." Either through the total depravity of the types or the telephone, the announcement appeared in our most widely circulated morning papers as: "Fools and their uses." Though a good sermon could undoubtedly have been preached from the latter text, the minister in question did not accept the amendment.

'I am hastening to send in my renewal of subscription to your extremely satisfactory magazine, that I may lose none of the numbers.—Mrs. S. A. S., Torrington, Conn.

Have you made a study of the soil on your farm and learned to what certain fields are specially adapted to? If not, it would be a wise thing to do. The importance of knowing what crops can be raised to best advantage in certain localities and on certain soils is becoming more and more evident. It was found that celery could be profitably raised on some land which had heretofore been considered almost valueless. Now a large industry has been established in that locality. In another locality it was found that cucumbers for pickling purposes did extremely well, and now four hundred acres of land in that vicinity are exclusively devoted to that purpose and storage rooms capable of holding fifty thousand bushels have been constructed. These are only two of many instances where natural adaption of particular land to particular crops has been taken advantages of by thinking farmers. It pays to have a specialty in farming, as well as in other lines of

Enclosed find One Dollar for your magazine to be sent to my mother for three years. When a girl at home she always took your magazine and will be pleased to have it again, since we boys are planning to have flowers and a garden this year. She saw your November number and liked it very much —H. H.,

The forty-eighth anniversary of the Western New York Horticultural Society will occur January 28 and 29, 1903, at Rochester. Some of the best speakers on horticultural subjects will address the meeting, a review of the addresses will be given in our March issue.

OUR PRIZE CONTEST.

We wish to urge all of those who love flowers or have some special knowledge about garden affairs, to write about it for our prize contest and send to us when remitting for next year's subscription. Do not mind if you cannot put it in elegant language—the ideas are what count and then you can feel that you are helping others by giving them the advantage of your experience,

The Three Year Rate.

We have not yet decided just how long we shall hold open our offer to send Vick's Family Magazine three years for \$1 00 but we cannot do so much longer as we shall advance the price to \$1.00 a year very soon, when we shall enlarge the publication and use better paper etc. By subscribing now for three years, you will really get \$3.00 worth for only \$1.00 No more liberal offer has ever been made to the American public. May we not have your dollar by next mail?

Be Contented.

If happiness is one of the chief ends to be sought by man, we are sure that good health is not to be overlooked as it is one of the important factors in producing happiness. In this commercial age when so many young men seek the towns and cities that they may "succeed" in business, it is worth while to notice the rapidly growing tendency of business men to seek the country as a respite from the nerve racking trials of business. The farmer has plenty of exercise in the open air, which is one of the best prescriptions a doctor can give for maintaining good health. He has also plenty of plain food and time to eat it. Contrast this life with work in a dusty shop, a stuffy store or office, with hustle and worry, twenty minutes for a lunch at some restaurant where food is poorly cooked, and you get a faint idea of the necessity for city people to seek the quiet of the country for rest. Country people should not think because their city cousins wear better clothes and have a jolly time during their two weeks' vacation, that life is a continuous holiday with them. Too many city people would gladly give up all their privileges for good nerves. good digestion and a chance to live quietly among the fields and hills; so we say be contented where you are, you are doubtless happier and probably better off financially.





Allen's Fountain Brush and Bath Outfit

Friction. Shower and Massage Combined. The only Santiary Bath Brush that at one operation thoroughly cleaness the skin, imparting a healthy tone and glow, and puts one in a condition to resist colds, la-grippe and all contagious and infectious diseases. Furnished either for bath tub connection, or with our fountain and Safety Portable Floor Mat. Enabling one to take a perfect spray and frictional bath in any room. With this outfit one is independent of the bath room, as a better bath can be taken with two quarts of water, than with a tub-full the old way. Insures a clear complexion, bright eyes, rosy cheeks, cheerful spirits, sound sleep. Should be in every home, and every travelers trunk or grip. Full outfit No. 2, consisting of Fountain Brush; combination rubber hot water bag; bath fountain and syringe and safety mat. Price \$5.50.

Agents are making from \$25 to \$75 per week selling these outfits. Send for FREE Fooklet, "The Science of the Bath," prices and terms.

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LATEST BROOCH.

Set with Large Garnet, Turquoise or Amethyst, and surrounded by handsome imitation Pearls. Presents a magnificent appearance. To introduce our Catalogue will send you this handsome Brooch. Send 10c. to help pay postage and packing.

PROSPERITY JEWELRY CO., Dept. C, 194 Broadway, New York.

MOTHER'S MEETING.

(Continued from page seven.)

damp, cold climates it is a superior method and the lessening in laundry is the chief item, the small original outlay coming a close second. (Should any mother desire the pattern and full, clearly written directions for such outfit let her address me. I will send clear explanation of this idea and a splendid night robe idea used by me for several children for ten cents in stamps.)

Those of you who read "The American Mother'' have noted the commending words of Augusta Harwood, M. D., concerning the swaddling idea. The plan she gives is, however, far less improved than the sweet little outfit I ordered made by a Woman's Exchange and put on exhibit. Its beauty drew crowds of admirers. usefulness was easily seen. That was long ago but my opinion of them grows more favorable yearly Let a "Dorcas Society' make some sets of swaddling clothes for charitable use. The infant Jesus was thus clothed. Those who have not should send a postal card requesting a catalogue about those famous "Gertrude Suits" made by the Novelty Knitting Co., of Albany, N. Y. Delicate mothers who desire to avoid sewing and still desire to have a very economical layette-so daintily made-should either apply direct or at nearest department store and-"seeing is believing;" she can spare double sort, three knit underskirts, much less work to do so than to roll serious troubles young mothers get in,

crying and crossness among American babies where as the little be-capped, be-swaddled German babes are models. Dear little baldheads! How many possess no hair and feel the cold draughts painfully. Earaches, colic, cramps, bronchitis, colds-ah! such a long list where proper dressing would prevent. Give your baby a thin wool or silk cap and let who will laugh. Baby surely will, and the beaming face will seem quaintly sweet in a cunning night cap. Furnace heated homes are less trying, of course; but we know how many are born in draughty, stove heated and isolated homes. Experience causes me to put the nightcap among the preventives of croup as well as catarrh and ear-

Two sample layettes are herewith given, one being of the "Gertrude" order. Additions and reductions will be suggested later, and the size of purses considered.

Gertrude Layette: three knit bands (they may follow the first straight flannel strips used while navel is healing, if one is fearful) three vests, one

better dressed. I wish to plead for bibs, three caps, two wash cloths, four Two white petticoats can be made winter babies. There is a deal of given to their unrivaled bath aprons. For creepers their knit leglets are strongly commended as the only dein the babes who creep in winter.

shirts (be sure they open down front, unless you buy those happy inventions, the Rubens shirts now sold diapers of cotton or linen diaperine, (washed and boiled to softness) three pairs bootees and three pairs long on these. hose for cool weather, four heavy outing flannel pinning blankets, not made, with heavy muslin bands to be pinned but with a button-holed band to be buttoned to a waist. Note that I advise heavy outing flannel, not flannel. A pinning blanket is meant for keeping tiny feet warm and partly to protect the flannel petticoat, and when much beauty and warmth, with economy and ease in cleansing. three sleeveless waists, of flannel for winter, made with small flat buttons support petticoats, etc. Have tab dozen knit diapers, assorted (an idea ends in back to use to pin diapers to, herself overwork and baby will be two flannel Gertrude underskirts, four him up in merciless pinned bands.

warmth for all babies, especially day dresses. Special notice should be (with bodies if desired) for common use quite plainly of muslin, cambric, etc. One fine one to accompany the best robe may be added. Hand-knit. vice possible to prevent chilled limbs lace of not too large or heavy designs makes a singularly dainty finish. An ordinary layette may contain Dresses for day use are called "slips" three straight flannel bands, three and while one can keep clean with three, more is better, unless the mother devotes her days to washingor lets poor baby go dirty. Night everywhere) three dozen assorted sizes slips are so cheaply and well made as well as little bath wrappers in the stores that no busy mother need sew

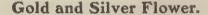
> Two little outing flannel or fine flannel house sacques are more useful than many shawls. Kimonos are quaint and very good shapes for these. A "shawlhood" is a true luxury which any baby might covet and it is easy to make.

When buying and making do not overlook baby's bed or omit preparaouting flannel is used you obtain as tions for coming needs of your own. A bed protector you must have in Add both instances and after trial of all sorts and grades I firmly believe you can do no better for economy and in front and with larger buttons to quality than to use the waterproof bed sheets advertised in Vick's.

And, if you live in a cold house will be given later for a unique and and the comfort of this arrangement and expect baby to arrive in cold cheap way to tide over the first and is seen when, as is so frequent in weather buy an ounce of prevention disagreeable stage in diapers) three early infancy, baby needs wet petti- for yourself. If you know the horrors knit night gowns, if for winter the coats entirely changed, as it is so of a mammary abcess, or the more their devoted night nursing of frail

NOVELTIES

Every reader of VICK'S MAGAZINE will, we are sure, be interested in these grand novelties which are the best of the season, and at the request of the publishers we are giving VICK'S readers the first chance.



A grand novelty from New South Wales which has never before been offered in the United States and cannot be obtained elsewhere. The flowers are about the size of a silver dollar, intensely double and pure silvery white with a center of bright gold, thus giving it the appearance of a new silver dollar with a five dollar gold piece laid in the center which, at a few feet distance is quite startling. The bush is literally covered with these flowers, and they not only retain their beauty like other flowers when kept in vases, but they are really an everlasting and look just as pretty during the winter when dry, as when picked fresh from the plants. Grows readily from seed. Price 25 cts. per pkt., but if you will send us, before March 15th, the ad-FREE dresses of three persons who cultivate flowers and two 2-cent stamps we will send you a full sized packet to pay for your trouble.



Mexican Burning Bush.

Thousands of persons who visited our trial grounds have been greatly impressed with the peculiar beauty of this new plant which is known botanically as Kochia. Grows quickly from seed in round tree-like form. Color beautiful light green all through the hot summer months, but early in September the plants become covered with myriads of minute scarlet flowers, thus making it a veritable ball of fire. Unequalled for borders and hedges. Pkt. 10 cts.

Jonah's Gourd

A wonderfully rapid growing vine from Palestine known there by the above name and believed to be the vine which sheltered the Prophet. (See Jonah IV-6.) It grows with wonderful rapidity to a height of 50 to 60 feet. Leaves large, flowers pure white two or three inches in diameter and fruits of immense length and curiously

ornamented. All flower lovers will want to try Jonah's Gourd. Per pkt. of 6 seeds 10 cts.; 3 pkts, for 25 cts.

\$20.00 Prize. We offer a cash prize of \$20.00 in gold for the longest gourd grown this year from this seed. Anyone purchasing direct from us may compete. Stock of seed is limited however, so do not fail to order.

Good Venture Geranium.

Yes, you can easily grow geraniums from seed and all the new varieties are originated in this way. The Good Venture is the finest strain of geraniums now on the market. Seed was saved from arge particularly fine flowers which have been hybridized to produce choice sorts. Flowers are of all shades of crimson, scarlet, salmon, rose, white, etc., with beautiful shadings and edgings Full directions for culture sent with each package. Per pkt. 10 cts.

Our Catalogue for 1903 is the largest and most complete book ever issued by any seed firm west of the Mississippi. Mailed free if you mention VICK'S MAGAZINE.

"Seedsmen to the American People" IOWA SEED CO., DES MOINES, IOWA.



The Mothers Meeting.

babies, by so carelessly running around barefooted, you would prize a pair of felt slippers or a pair of bed socks.

Mothers, glance at the head piece design of heartsease. Are you flower lovers? Then you have thought of the little baby faces. Everyone loves pansies—I feel them to be symbols. "Pansies for thoughts." And once-there was such a sweet golden-curled, brown-eyed, flower-like girlfour years old, and so thoughtful, so helpful, so peace-loving, and, we said then and know now, so heavenly.

Dear mothers, shall the pansies blooming on her grave mean only tokens of a mother's love, or may I hope that to open my heart will cause such thoughts to bloom as she would love to see?

For she was, she is, "my heartsease baby." Remembering her I strive to sow seeds of kind thoughts, helpfulness and unselfish love by this appeal. You who look ahead with love, you who look back with longing, will you join in my wish, feeble in its loneliness but mighty if you will aid, to have a living tribute to the memory of an angelic child instead of useless regrets?

If you sympathize send to me for pansy seed, and when the beautiful blooms appear we will use them for the outward smybols of our mutual sympathy. The first hundred replying will receive choice seeds gratis, and the others at two cents per package. The thought of 1903 is-Do not judge others. None beneath God can judge justly and mercifully. We do not truly and fully know anyone as God knows him. Tongues may ruin or redeem in unsuspected souls struggles not visible to the careless

Ate the Bill of Fare.

Among the novelties at a recent dinner was an edible bill of fare. It was made of biscuit, and was intended to be devoured with the cheese. This appears to us an excellent idea and capable of expansion. Before very long, perhaps, we may be served with edible knives and forks. Think of the washing-up we should be spared if our guests could consume their plates after each course at



A THOUGHT FOR WASHING DAY.

The clothes-line is a rosary Of household help and care; Each little saint the mother loves Is represented there.

And when across her garden plot She walks, with thoughtful heed, I should not wonder if she told Each garment for a bead.

For Cecil's scarlet stockings hang Beside Amelia's skirt,

And Bilbo's breeches, which of late Were sadly smeared with dirt.

Yon kerchief small wiped bitter tears For ill success at school: This pinafore was torn in strife 'Twist Fred and little Jule.

And that device of finer web. And over costly lace, Adorned our eldest when she danced At some gay fashion place.

A stranger, passing, I salute The household in its wear, And smile to think how near of kin Are love and toil and prayer.

-Julia Ward Howe.

Our Prize Contests

A large number have already sent in articles and stories. Send yours as soon as prepared. You can surely write an interesting and profitable article or story for one of our many contests. Read full particulars and instructions below.

NO. 1.—SHORT STORIES.

FIRST PRIZE \$50.00. SECOND PRIZE \$20.00 Third \$10.00. Fourth, fifth and sixth, \$5.00 each; the 7th, 8th, 9th, 10th and 11th, \$3.00 each. The stories must be of pure moral character and must not contain less than 2,000 or more than 5,000 words. We prefer to have scenes laid either in England or America.

NO. 2.-CHILDREN'S STORIES.

FIRST PRIZE \$15.00. SECOND PRIZE \$10.00. Third \$5.00. Fourth and fifth, \$5.00 each. Sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth, \$2.00 each. Sixth seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth, \$2.00 each. Stories must be suited for children between the ages of six and twelve years. We prefer them about animals, flowers or birds and such as will tend to make them kind to pets and animals, or give them an interest in studying nature.

NO. 3-FLORAL ARTICLES.

NO. 3-FLORAL ARTICLES.

FIRST PRIZE \$15.00. SECOND PRIZE \$10.00. Third \$5.00. The 4th, 5th, 6th, 7th and 8th \$2.00 each; the 9th, 10th, 11th, 12th, 13th, 14th, 15th 16th, 17th and 18th \$1.00 each. Articles may contain from 200 to 1,000 words. Must be concisely told and must be plain and practical. We prefer articles based on actual experience. They may treat of one or more house plants, garden flowers or shrubs suitable for any month of the year. Articles of from 500 to 1,000 words may be told in story form if you prefer.

NO. 4.-HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

NO. 4.—HOUSEHOLD HINTS.

FIRST PRIZE \$5.00. SECOND PRIZE \$2.50. Third Prize \$1.50; and 25 additional prizes of a year's subscription each. If you know of some easy way to do a certain kind of work or any valuable point about housework, arrangement of furniture, making of clothing, care of children, etc., etc., tell it for the benefit of our women readers. If you do not feel that you can write it up suitably, give us the facts and we will arrange them. It is information—practical points, that we want.

NO. 5.-GARDEN POINTS.

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FIRST PRIZE \$5.00. SECOND PRIZE \$2.50. Third \$1.50 and 25 additional prizes of a year's subscription each. If you know some feature of poultry keeping or raising which would be helpful to our readers, write it out and send it in. Tell it briefly and plainly. It may treat of any feature of the business.

NO. 7.—POETRY.

FIRST PRIZE \$5.00. SECOND PRIZE \$2.50. Third Prize \$1.50 and 25 additional prizes of a years subscription each. Poems must not be longer than seven verses of eight lines each, short ones are preferred. May be on any subject suitable for the magazine.

be longer than seven verses of eight lines each, short ones are preferred. May be on any subject suitable for the magazine.

NO. S.—PHOTOGRAPHS.

FIRST PRIZE \$5.00. SECOND PRIZE \$2.50. Third Prize \$1.50 and 25 additional prizes of a year's subscription each. Photographs must be those taken by amateurs and may be of any subject either out of doors or inside, if suitable for publication in the magazine. Write name and address on back of photograph and if you wish it returned send postage for that purpose.

DIRECTIONS. Manuscript must be plainly written and on one side of paper only. Your letter must be addressed to Phize Department, Vick's Family Magazine, 62 State St. Rochester, N. Y., and the number of the contest plainly marked on the outside of the envelope. At the top of the first page of Mss. must appear the author's name and address, also number of words. If you desire Mss. returned if not successful in winning a prize, sufficient postage must be enclosed for its return. Mss. should be sent in as soon as possible to give time to review carefully. The contest will close March 25, 1903.

CONDITIONS. We reserve the right to buy at our regular cash rates any Mss. submitted. We desire only practical and helpful matter submitted, and to avoid mere trifles entering the contest we have made it a condition that all entering the contest must enclose 50 cents for a subscription to the magazine either for themselves or another person. Those desiring to submit more than one article may submit three for every two subscriptions sent. A three-year subscription at our special rate of \$1.00 will be counted as two yearly subscriptions. All conditions are plainly given in this announcement and we cannot enter into correspondence with those desiring to enter the contest.

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BRIGHT EYED CIRCLE.

(Continued from page eleven.)

For the best reply giving sensible reasons why the faults were bad for Sammie, a prize of \$1.00 is offered. For the second, if a boy' six months subscription to 'American Boy' (such a lovely boy's paper!) and fifty If a girl comes second, six months subscription to "Youth" (every girl-and boy-loves it) and one of those charming new signet bracelets with your own initial letter engraved

Sammie's New Year Resolutions.

Sammie's eyes were swollen and his face was white. His mother came at his call but she, too, looked white and her eyes were tearful. She asked as naturally as she could what he desired; for Sammie was sick and doing penance all alone in his ''jolly nice' room. And it was New Years Day. Mother had meant him to have such larks and now-"Serves me right," he muttered, "a-smokin" on New Years on them blamed cigarettes when I'd promised to never smoke till I was twenty-one."

"I wish I could have my tablet and fountain pen please." Sammie could scarcely look at his mother. How sad she looked! Still he would not say "forgive me." After she had gone he set to work on framing an elabor ate statement of the faults he had and a vow to drop all of them during 19-. Evidently Sammie meant to be an angel. The words ran as fol

"I now and forever after vow to cure myself during coming year of all my faults which are .- I. Saying some pretty stiff words." And I guess I'd better look out 'cause it's time or else mother'll catch me at it. 'Tother day I started out with, By-and there was mother, lookin' awful. Pop wouldn't I bet. He'd lick my everlastin' head off'n me! Oh well, guess I'll drop that cause I'll wear a string tighter'n-; Whew! there now, I most up and did it again! Say. ain't habits escape without mother hearin' me in their hair. That will make me some day when I git fightin' mad at snoot flattern a pancake soon as I'm Ain't she larks to tease, eh? Tomorlittle cuss goin' home fast as he could death; the fellers and me-say! scoot and yellin 'Sammie's dyin'!" just because I got sicker'n sick over my first cigarette. All the fellers "celebrated" that way so, course I goin' to stop. Its too much. Can't did too. Guess I kind o' sorter a feller do nothin' but grin as sweet forgot mother's eyes-S'pose she would faint again if I do lick Ned as poles and never whisper nor fire spit-I'd oughter. Well then I leave him balls, nor use deaf and dumb language? be-this time. Little brothers are I am shamed to tease my Sunday nice sometimes—helpin' do my chores school teacher cause she's a peach!

II. Cigarettes. Guess one word'll do for that. Ugh—good land. I'm presently his pencil dropped—he was sick again just thinkin' of it! And asleep. Mother found him and as she them fellers laughed! Wish I had read his list she smiled but sighed. thunderin' good thumpin!"

word "white." it mother says all lies is black."

IV. Swiping and Cooning. Guess I'm sore yet where pop ketched me the night we fellers stole-cooned deaf old Whitlaw's grapes. Lordie! didn't he lick me some! Wust thing of all had to be in bed every night at calling "Baby, baby, go to sleep my baby.

V. Using Slang Too Much. Mother hates the word "kid." Its kinder tough-don't see how I kin talk on not using slang."

VI. Being Late to School. That's being late to breakfast, really, cause I always rolls over after I'm called and then, hush! I forgit I was called till mother she comes up stairs that hurt her heart to climb, and says, "Sammie are you sick?" Or pop, he comes up and lays off them quilts and flops me over, and say! I git up quickern greased cats! And when I'm late to school it's great! Get a lickin' there, and one from pop, and mother she always sits down by my bed and tells me a story of some terrible smart man wot never was late nor nuthin. And when sne goes she kisses me and says "Sammie, you will be a better boy, won't you?" And no matter how mad I am at pop I never kin stay mad with mother. Bet I've squalled a hull dishpanful some nights cause of her eyes.

VII. Dirty Ears, etc., hum-that means my nails and my hair and not brushin' my clothes. Wonder how Pop ever got to be so all fired clean as he is "

VIII. Teasing Girls. By-stop! I mean shucks! I just can't help teasing girls nohow. Well-I'll stop firing rocks at their feet and stealin' terrible easy to ketch." Lucky if I their hair ribbons and puttin' burrs bettern most boys and its no easy job Don't care! I'll paste his There's Annie Gause. 'little goose.'' up! D-- him! I mean sneaky row I'm going to scare her half to blamed if I kin do it now cause of this here New Year's idee."

IX. Bothering Teachers. Say, I'm as sugar and sit straightern telegraph But at school I never can stand it." Sammie grew thoughtful, he sighed; 'em here. Say wouldn't I give 'em a ''He said nothing about a hundred III. White Lies. Guess I won't so very many. Nor that he goes say nothin' 'bout black ones cause of with bad boys shooting birds, and mania Building, Milwaukee, Wis.

most particularest goin' all sorts of lies too. Let's see she names 'em. stealing ice. And lays dynamite or Acting lies. Silent Lies (maybe I some horrid stuff I can't remember, aint just truthful writing "White on the tracks for the trolleys to run lies"). Purpose Lies. Exaggerations. over. And goes swimming when I Yep. that's the list! Hum-'and get wild with alarm over where he is, Sammie carefully scratched out the and then has cramps. And is a ter-"Come to think of ror on Fourth of July and Halloween. Ah Sammie," she sighed as she left him, "I wonder will you really stop any of your faults! Yet he loves me. When I'm sick he's like an overgrown bear stealing round tiptoe and trying to make no noise but bumping into everything and dropping six for a month-and all the fellers nicest china, tray and all. Poor, dear Sammie."

> Now, Bright Eyes, stir yourselves. You must send your answers right along as I want some one to be happy over the prizes by March.

> Be sure to study the story for more faults for the one who discovers the longest list of them wins the First Prize, and will prove a smart keen person always, I'm sure. Let your answer give all the faults you see in Sammie, the three most dangerous ones the reasons why, and what faults Sammie probably did drop because he was really sorry, and said "I won't."

A Smart Boy.

A smart little boy who had been to school And was up to all sorts of tricks, Discovered that nine when upside down. Would pass for the figue six.

So when asked his age by a good old dame The comical youngster said, I'm nine when I stand on my feet this! But six when I stand on my head.

Grandpa.

My grandpa says that he was once A little boy like me. I s'pose he was; and yet it does Seem queer to think that he Could ever get my jacket on, Or shoes, or like to play With games and toys, and race with Duke, As I do every day.

He's come to visit us, you see. Nurse says I must be good And mind my manners, as a child With such a grandpa should. For grandpa is straight and tall, And very dignified; He knows most all there is to know. And other things beside.

So though my grandpa knows so much, I thought that maybe boys Were things he hadn't studied, They make such awful noise. But when I asked at dinner for Another piece of pie, I thought I saw a twinkle in The corner of his eye.

So yesterday when they went out And left us two alone, I was not quite so much surprised To find how nice he'd grown. You should have seen us romp and run! My! now I almost see That p'r'aps he was, long, long, ago, A little boy like me. Gertrude Morton Cannon, in Youth's Companion

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all the women alive my mother is the runs away without asking, and was SWEEDISH FACIAL CREAM AND



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The Care of the Eyes By Kate Burton

ogies that we should not read, or strain our eyes over any fine work, in a bad light, yet this precisely is what lament, after a while, that they are forced to wear glasses.

The care of the eyes should be begun early-the earlier, the better. Babies should never be wheeled out facing the sun; and a parasol should always be provided to shut off the direct rays. To be sure, plenty of sunshine is a very good thing for babies, but it is cruel to let the bright rays shine directly in the little face for long at a time. A white paper or cloth lying on the floor, in the sunshine, may often prove a source of annoyance. Mothers whose children have weak eyes should insist that their teachers place them near a window where a good, even light will be provided; it should preferably fall at the side or back.

It is a fact that in proportion to their number, more people—and especially children—now wear glasses, than a score of years go; and where the general run of people have weaker eyes than then, or whether we are learning to take better care of them, is a question that cannot readily be answered, though I am of the opinion that we now realize the importance of caring for the organs of sight, and beginning early.

Most people dislike to wear glasses, and they need not necessarily be worn, unless weak eyes are inherited, or unless they have been willfully neglected for too long. The eyes are in sympathy with all organs of the body; therefore, strict hygiene and cleanliness should be practiced. Children do not always inherit weak eyes, especially if one parent's eyes are strong.

A few simple home rules should be regarded in caring for the eyes. Bathe them every morning-as well as the whole face-in real cold water; this will make the flesh firm and healthy, and increase the supply of white corpuscles in the blood, which carry good health to all parts of the body. After working on fine needle work, or coming in from an evening entertainment in brilliantly lighted rooms, the eves often feel hot and tired; and if a sponge or cloth is dipped in cold they will become almost immediately cooled and rested.

Unless you have to, do not work by lamplight on fine work, or read fine used. Do not sit with the light shinover your shoulder, on the pages of something very serious.

The eye is one of the most delicate the book. Shade the face with the organs of the human body, yet next hand if the light irritates. When to the stomach it is perhaps the most coming down with a hard cold, the abused. We are told in our physiol- eyes often ache and become inflamed; they should not be used until they feel better. Persons with weak watery eyes should not work at anyeight out of every ten do, and then one thing for too long a time; rest and change are very essential. A good exercise is to close the lids and raise the eye brows as high as possible; this will soon bring a feeling of rest. Of course, such afflictions as sore eyes, cataracts, astigmatism, etc., should be treated by an experienced occulist.

When the need of glasses is apparent, go to a person that thoroughly understands his buisness and be properly fitted. It is a great mistake to buy cheap glasses that in time do the eves more harm than good. It is not recommendable to patronize peddlers that guarantee a good fit and a pair of gold plated glasses for a quarter.

The Hill of Cellar Door.

I know a hill not far away Where children always love ro play; The hill is straight, and smooth, and low— For little folks 'tis better so.

The coasting there is very nice Without the cold of snow and ice; You slide in summer, fall or spring, But need not bother sleds to bring.

It is the safest hill I've found. Sometimes you tumble to the ground, But 'tis not far you have to fall, And would not hurt a child at all.

It's very near your home, and so Your mother'll always let you go. For then she knows you're right near by And she can hear you if you cry.

So up you scramble, down you slide, And oh, you have a jolly ride: You always want to play some more Upon the Hill of Cellar-Door.

-Washington Star.

A Minister's Shirt.

A Scotch minister who was preaching on trial in a country kirk was watched with keen eyes by the faithful but critical flock. The preaching was good. The man was earnest and quick-witted, and the people liked his cheery ways and plain common sense.

But a Scotchman is sure to find a flaw in human conduct, if there is one: and the oldest one of the most influential men in the village shook his head gravely and declared that the candidate would not do. When he mentioned the fault of which he complained to the chief men of the kirk they agreed with him that it was a serious matter, but thought that it water and pressed gently against them, might be possible to remedy the defect.

The good man's objection was based upon a single detail of the minister's dress. He wore collars and cuffs print, especially if the eyes are weak. which could be detached from his If they are strong, care should also be shirt. The cuffs, moreover, could be reversed. It seemed a petty thing, ing in your face; let it shine from but the pious critic considered it

he said, "whether his shirt is clean or not? The collars and cuffs may be fresh and neat, while the shirt may have been on his back for a fortnight. It betokens insincerity. A minister who avoids that which is misleading, and is honest and trustworthy, would wear a shirt with its own collar and wristbands.

The good men, who agreed with him, suggested that the young clergyman could probably be induced to buy a new set of proper shirts. Accordingly he was invited to a private conference, and his fault was pointed out by the stern critic with great plainness of speech.

"You see, sir," was the closing remark, "we like your preaching, but we want to be sure that you are what you seem to be, and to know with certainty that your shirt is as clean as your collar or cuffs."

The minister received the suggestion with humility, and said that he was not absolutely unwilling to change his manner of dress and to buy a set of "proper shirts." "But, brethren," he added, "I do not like to do it. I was born a poor boy in Grampians, and my good mother taught me to save the pennies. It is very wasteful, it seems to me, to have the whole shirt washed when only the collar and cuffs are soiled. My pious mother would not have approved of it."

The brethren moved uneasily in their seats.

"Besides," the minister went on, 'there ought not to be one rule for the pulpit and another for the pews. When I preach I see good men in front of me who seem to have fine heads of hair, but who are really bald and wear wigs, which, at least in some cases, deceive persons who see them. Would it not be more honest for them to take off their wigs and show their bald pates?"

This was a home thrust. chief critic was very bald and wore a long, flaxen wig. Other brethren in the church also had wigs, and were not what they seemed to be.

There was a long pause; then the main objector remarked grimly:

"You ought to heed your mother's Wear what shirts you like." Baptist Commonwealth.

Patience is the king of content. Mahomet.

Few things are impossible to diligence and skill. Addison.

When faith is lost and honor dies, the man is dead. Whittier.

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January Jottings.

This is rather cold weather for garden work isn't it? Well ratherespecially for us of the North. However, as we can visit our friends but once a month, we sometimes have to call at unseasonable hours. You see I am calling thus early, in order that all may be ready in good time; and there is considerable planning to do before we are ready for the general start. Now the catalogues of the various seedsmen are, or very soon will be, ready for distribution. Most of them are replete with useful things and they are well worth a careful study. They are gladly sent, upon a postal card request; and I very much desire that our readers should have them. I do not say this to create a "run" on the seedsmen, for it costs money to get them up and money to send them out. But they are more than glad to send them to all prospective purchasers of seeds, so I ask you to send for them feeling sure that they will add zest to the garden work, and prove a means to a much desired end. So I am anxious that you not only send to some of the reputable firms for their catalogues, but that you also make good use of them when you receive them. Reinforced with these helps, we are better prepared to make careful selections and thus secure better assortments. In a previous number, I said that as soon as our family circle was practically complete and settled down for the year, I desired to start at the stepping stone and carry on our work systematically; step by step. So I have been at some pains to prepare two reference tables that will be useful from the beginning.

TIME OF GERMINATION.

There are no ironclad rules that we can apply as to the exact, or even average time of seed germination, as so many conditions must be consid-Some general calculations, however, may be made and are helpful in the planting and management of the garden. The following table shows approximately the usual period of germination of the more common

DAYS	DAYS
Beans 5 to 10	Lettuce 6 to 8
Beet 7 to 10	Onion 7 to 10
Cabbage 5 to 10	Parsnip 10 to 20
Carrot 12 to 20	Peas 6 to 10
Cauliflower 5 to 10	Pepper 10 to 14
Celery 10 to 20	Radish 3 to 6
Corn 5 to 8	Salsify 7 to 12
Cucumber 6 to 10	Tomato 6 to 12
Endive 5 to 10	Turnip 4 to 8

This table presupposes ordinarily fair conditions, and will vary considerably under the extremes of very poor to ideal surroundings. The same is also true as to the ordinary time of year in and year out. To such the

maturity. For illustration, an early variety of sweet corn planted under just the right conditions might mature for table use in sixty-five days. The same variety planted a month earlier with ground and weather barely warm enough to sustain life might require seventy to eighty days. This means that many of the so-called extra early varieties of vegetables are not so under all conditions. The results of one season may be entirely overturned by the varying conditions of the season following. The best that can be done is to be "instant in season and out of season," and trust Providence for the rest.

The following table referring to the average time from seed sowing to maturing will be subject to many changes in actual practice. The same varieties vary in their characteristics as to time of maturing from extra early to late, so the term maturity as used here may refer to the time when ready for table use, or it may mean when fully ripe in other cases. For instance, onions require 130 to 150 days to fully mature, but they may be used as green onions within a few weeks from planting.

MATURITY TABLE.

DAYS	DAYS
Beans 40 to 60	Muskmelon 125 to 150
Beet 40 to 50	Onions 130 to 150
Cabbage 90 to 115	Parsley 90 to 120
Celery 150 to 160	Parsnip 120 to 150
Corn (sweet) 65 to 90	Peas 40 to 90
Cucumber 55 to 75	Pepper 140 to 160
Egg Plant 150 to 175	Radish 20 to 30
Lettuce 65 to 75	Spinach 60 to 80
Watermelon. 125 to 150	Squash s'm'er 90 to 110
Squash wint'r 120 to 150	Tomato 110 to 120
Turnip 60 to 75	

It must be remembered that actual days will vary considerably from those given in the table. Soil and weather conditions will have much to do with the matter as also cultivation. The tables will be useful and should be carefully preserved and kept ready for reference at any time.

THE FINANCIAL SIDE.

I very much wish that space permitted diving deeply into the many phazes of the money side of gardening. I am going to encroach upon it sufficiently, however, to speak of some of the profit features. I much prefer growing small fruits and vegetables for my own family to paying doctor bills. True these are not an unfailing panacea for the ills of life; but the doctors will find their work decreasing in proportion to the increase of vegetables and small fruit consumption. Then the garden of itself with its cultural duties is a wonderful sanitarium for the mothers and daughters who by force of duty or otherwise, are shut up in the house





What! Ripe Tomatoes in June!

Yes that is what we have had for the last four years, from Fedder's Best and Earliest of all Tomatoes. They are a bright scarlet, smooth as an apple, will not crack, are large yielders and last until frost kills them. 200 seeds from selected tomatoes 15c, 2 packets for 25c. Henry Fedder, Box 27, Dansville, Liv. Co., N. Y.

We have seen Mr. Fedder, 45.

We have seen Mr. Fedder's tomatoes. They are all he claims.—Ed. Vick's Magazine.

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and health-giving than vacation trips previous winter was exceptionally cold to fashionable watering places. Then and the frost went down unusually too, there is a "dollars and cents" side to this question of which I like found plenty of frost still in the to talk because it is money earned in a clean and honest way, and in the way first given to man as a means of livelihood. From many and widely distant homes, letters come to me enquiring as to some means of earning 'pin' money, or perchance a part or the whole of a living. To such I answer that well directed and energetic effort in the flower or vegetable garden, or the small fruit plot, offers even more enticing attractions, and far more satisfactory returns in the end, than thrumming the tpyewriter or measuring off ribbon behind the counter. It may be that the clothes will not be quite so fine; perchance the hands may be less white and shapely; but there will be many more nights of refreshing sleep, and maybe far less aching hearts.

If I shall be able to lead any through the garden gate, out into pleasant and profitable ways, I shall feel that through their success I am more than amply repaid for all my efforts. But lest the "forms" are ordered locked before I am done, I want to say something as to the

TIME TO MAKE THE HOT BED.

If only my pen were that of a "ready writer," that I could induce every one of our readers to make a hot bed this year, I believe they would all be grateful and forgive my persistent nagging. If it were only a small one; even one sash in size, it would be a start in the right direction and would surely lead to more extended effort in the future. But as to the time, this will depend almost wholly on locality, season and varieties of vegetables grown. In general it may be said that nothing will be gained by starting too early. When the plants are large enough to go into the open ground, in most cases, they are held in the hot beds to their own injury. From six to eight weeks before planting out, is early enough for the ordinary work of the hot bed. Planting time, of course, means after all danger of frost is past, and when the ground is sufficiently warm that the plants shall receive no check. Sometimes we get caught by capers of the weather outside of the ordinary; but some chances have to be taken, and if we get "there" without a visit from Jack Frost, we are so much ahead. If he decides to meddle with our affairs, then we have to make the best of it. It may be said, that with time and inclination the hot bed may be used to very great advantage for a table supply of radishes and lettuce through February and March, and in many localities nearly the whole winter through. In this connection, it may be of some assistance in the general operations to give some data as to actual work with some varieties. Taking as a basis the summer of 1899. we may arrive at a fair average. I hoary—the plant is covered with

garden offers a change more restful | select this particular season, as the deep. Even the middle of April ground. With the weather once settled, however, there was very little delay either through frost or heavy storms. April 1, one hot bed was sown with tomato, cabbage, cauli-flower, lettuce, onion, and radish seed. It surely was "sunny cloudy April," smiling and weeping by turns, and at times the snow was driving in blinding fury. The bed was sown, however, and April 14, the tomatoes were transplanted right in the hot bed. The second set of leaves had appeared then; and that is the proper time for the first transplanting. May 4, they were potted and transferred to the cold frames; and on May 9, we were selling unpotted plants from the hot beds to plant in the open ground. May 26 our potted plants were transferrred to the open ground, and July 25, we were selling ripe tomatoes. It may be well to explain that by a serious storm which occurred about the middle of June, this planting was nearly all destroyed, and we were forced at that late season, to replant from the hot bed with unpotted plants. Yet with this serious hindrance we were selling ripened fruit inside of four months from seed sowing.

April 18, the cabbage plants were transplanted to a cloth-covered hot bed, and were set in the open field May 6. The plants were strong and stocky, and had been cut back twice before planting out, and we were marketing the crop July 15. dates and treatment of the cauliflower were the same except the marketing. The lettuce was transplanted to the cloth-covered bed on the same date as was the cabbage. May 4, the plants were badly crowded, and each alternate row was transplanted to the open ground. We began selling lettuce about May 20, and June first it was Radishes were ready for all sold. the table in seventeen days from sowing the seed, and when all were gone, the ground was sown to beets which were ready for transplanting May 15.

I have thus detailed a portion of the work accomplished in two beds. The first bed started, furnished all the plants used for stocking both, besides starting watermelon, muskmelon, and cucumber plants, and onions for transplanting quite a large patch. Aside from this, several dollars cash were realized from the sale of cabbage and tomato plants. In the February number, full directions will be given for the construction and care of hot beds, and this will be in ample time for the boys and girls and the grown up ones also, to try their skill, not only for home use but the money side,

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Who can tell the origin of this strange word? Hoar may mean

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PROGRESSIVE AMERICAN 52 North 13th Street, Philadelphia, Penna. scientific name Manubium is from the cities, the same oysters sell for ten Hebrew Manob--bitter juice and certainly its juice is bitter enough. (The specific term vulgare of course means common or vulgar.) It is an interesting perhaps even a pretty plant with its soft thick velvety crenated leaves which are evergreen but the whitish flowers are small and Native to South inconspicuous. Europe, Palestine, etc., it is naturalized over vast regions of Asia, Europe, and America. A lady of West Virginia says it grows wild with her, but have to cultivate it and it is not quite hardy here. Sometimes it lives through the winter but it is likely not to, and it is best to call it an annual and sow the seed every year. The tea is in use for colds, etc., whether it is of any real benefit is more than I know. It amuses the patient and the nurse at least. Put a little strong hoarhound tea into melted sugar and cast the sugar into sticks and you have hoarhound candy and this is the main use with me.

E. S. Gilbert.

Answers to Correspondents.

Mrs. M. E. P.-Raw oysters and sweet milk, as you say, are interdicted together. Oysters cooked with new milk are perfectly wholesome, but in soups and stews it is difficult to mix and cook oysters and their liquors without curdling the milk. This is obviated by boiling each separately, and scalding the oysters in their own liquor, then mixing all with the hot milk. This tendency to curdle shows why raw oysters and new milk should not be taken into the stomach together. The milk would become cheesey or solidified, which is always dangerous. Then another reason is that raw oysters are eaten with the acid of lemon, vinegar or sauce, which should not form a combination with sweet milk.

Young Housekeeper.—I am always pleased to solve perplexities for young Regarding the enhousekeepers. quiry for cost of oysters on the halfshell, if a peck or such a matter, of oysters in the shell are bought, they may be washed, wiped and wasted, at home, cheaper than oysters in any other form. If the oyster dealer cleans and opens the shells, serving you the oysters on the half-shell they will be expensive, as you pay him for this work.

The price of oysters varies, accordfor twenty-five cents per hundred, third new milk.

white wool but what is hound? The and of the finest quality. In nearby cents per dozen, and only for the eight months of the year that have the proverbial R in the name.

> Oysters on the Pacific Coast are so small that one person can eat a hundred. Many efforts have been made to introduce the large oysters of the East on the Catalina Island and California Coast, but all have failed. The oysters there are small, but of fine quality.

Scalloped Oysters. -Cook the oysters in their own liquor a few minutes. Then crumble crackers in a baking dish, about an inch deep; salt, pepper and bits of butter over the surface; then a layer of oysters; another layer of cracker crumbs, until the baker is full of alternate layers. Heat sweet milk and while boiling, mix with the hot oyster liquor and pour over the whole, until the contents of the baker are moist and the milk and liquor standing over the surface. Set in the oven to steam and lightly brown over the top. The last or top layer should be of cracker crumbs and butter. The crackers absorb the liquor, bake over Scalloped oysters make a dish fit for a king.

Oysters Scalloped in the Shell .-Select the deepest from a lot of shells; clean and set aside. Cook the ovsters a few minutes, and season the liquor with pepper, butter and chopped parsley. Fill the shells with oyster, dredge thickly with bread crumbs and bit of butter, allow just enough liquor to moisten the oyster and bread crumb, an set the shell in the oven to brown. Salt with oysters is generally not much needed. The broth or liquor they come in is salty enough; but bread crumbs, crackers and milk call for a moderate addition of salt.

Oysters never require much cook-Five or ten minutes is long enough to cook them in whatever form they are served.

old Virginia custom is to drain and over \$40,000 per annum, the salary of dry oysters and then roll each one the Postmaster of the same being from separately in corn meal, seasoning \$3,000 \$6,000. A second-class office is with salt, black and cayenne pepper. one where the gross receipts amount Hot lard is used to fry them a light to \$8,000 and not exceeding \$40,000 per brown; or the fat of bacon is used for annum, the salary of the Postmaster frying all kinds of fish, oysters in of this class being from \$2,000 to cluded. The bacon is cut into thin \$2,900 per annum. A third-class office strips and fried, and the fat reserved is one where the gross receipts are for frying oysters and all kinds of \$1,900 and not exceeding \$8,000 per fish. Corn meal and bacon fat give a annum, the salary of the Postmaster ing to the distance from the oyster different taste to fried oysters from being from \$1,000 to \$1,900 per annum. beds. On the Gulf Coast, fresh cacker-dust and lard. Oyster broth oysters every month in the year, sell for invalids has no seasoning but one- all offices where the receipts are less

Tomorrow.

Tomorrow and tomorrow. O fair and far away, What treasures lie, when hope is high, Along your shining way.

What promises fulfilled. What better deeds to do Than ever yet, are softly set Beneath your skies of blue.

Tomorrow and tomorrow, O sweet and far away, Still evermore lead on before Along your shining way.

Still evermore lift up our eyes Above what we have won To higher needs, and finer deeds That we have left undone.

Nora Perry.

Post Office Classificaton.

"It is quite surprising the number of letters the Post Office Department will receive during the course of a year from all sections of the country making inquiry as to the different classes Post Offices; what they are, how they are advanced from class to class. the salaries and compensations of Postmasters in the different grades and the Post Offices back to the fourth class and other queries along this line," the top, and serve steaming hot. said an old Post Office Inspector recently.

> "It is possible to give this information in a succinct and comprehensive form. While they are three classes of Presidential Post Offices, the department in the preparation of its appointment papers divides all Post Offices into but two classes-Presidential and fourth class.

> "A Presidential office is an office where the salary of the Postmaster amounts to not less than \$250 per quarter for four consecutive quarters, and the gross receipts for the same time amount to \$1,900. When an office has paid the above amount for four consecutive quarters and the gross receipts have amounted to \$1,900, or more, it is then advanced to the Presi-

"A first-class Presidential office is Oysters Fried in Corn Meal. - An one in which the gross receipts are

"Fourth-class Post Offices comprise than \$1,900 per annum, or where the

compensation of the Postmaster does not amount to \$250 per quarter for four consecutive quarters.

"Fourth-class Postmasters are allowed as compensation the whole of the box rents collected at their offices and commissions on cancellations of matter actually mailed at their offices and on amounts received from waste paper, &c., sold as follows: On the first \$50 or less per quarter, 100 per cent.; on the next \$100 or less per quarter, 60 per cent.; on the next \$200 or less per quarter, 50 per cent., and on all the balance, 40 per cent., the same to be ascertained and allowed by the Auditor for the Post Office Department in the settlement of the accounts.

"When a Presidential Post Office fails to come up to the minimum standard under the rules it is 'relegated' to the fourth class, the Postmaster's regular salary ceasing and his official income becoming dependent upon his commissions. Thus seven Presidential Post Offices were relegated to the process of 'regulating' Presidential fourth class this past year, while thirty-seven fourth-class Post Offices were advanced to the Presidential class."-Washington Star.

If you want ripe tomatoes in June send to Henry Fedder, Dansville, N. Y., for a packet of his early seed. They are all he claims for them. — Ed.

We want a correspondent at every P. O. In the U. S. Good wages writing one hour each day, particulars for stamp. CUTIFORM MFG. CO., Dept. A., Bellaire, Ohio.

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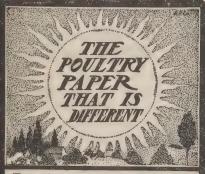
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geese place them in a small pen, so they will not get too much exercise, and feed three times a day, all they will eat up clean, of corn meal mixed to a dry crumbly state, and beef scraps amounting to twenty per cent of the bulk of the corn meal. They should be disturbed as little as possible while fattening, as excitement has a tendency to keep them from taking on

Care of Hens in Cold Weather and the Way Some People Treat Them.

In the treatment of hens for winter egg production, we should endeavor to bring them through the moult as early in the season as possible, and the next point to be remembered is that when the fowls get their new feathers they must not go into winter quarters too fat, or the yield of eggs is most sure to be unsatisfactory. we have pullets that were hatched early in the spring there will be no trouble in getting them to lay early in winter. As soon as the hens have their new feathers the same generous feeding that they had during the moulting season should be continued. but they should then be compelled to scratch and work for their feed to a great extent, from morning till night; the advantage in this may be explained in this way. For instance, a hen is running on free range and there is a pile of corn before her at a certain place. She will not fill her crop on this at once. She will pick up a few kernels, then leave it, and run perhaps to catch a grasshopper or bug, then she will take a ramble in some other direction and gather in a few worms and seeds of different kinds. Then she may return to the corn and take a few more kernels, then some green stuff, grit, etc., and in this way she will fill up her crop gradually with all the essentials to make eggs. Now in our winter care of fowls we should try to imitate as nearly as possible the actions of the hen while at large. Do we do this? I think not, at least I believe the majority of people who keep poultry go at it in a different way. Let us see how some persons care for their hens during the cold weather. I will not say much about the building in which they are kept, but the probabilities are that it don't need any ventilation. The first attention given the fowls for the day will probably be about eight o'clock, a. m., or a litle later, at which time (if the owner is really in earnest and is working for eggs when they are high) they will be served with a large dish of scalded corn meal-a very good feed for fattening fowls, but not the best for eggs. They will eat Take

to the roost or to some corner where P. Conolly, N. Y. City .- To fatten they will spend the greater part of the day, standing first on one foot then on the other. At four p. m., they will be given a royal dinner, consisting of shelled corn-sometimes the ears will be broken up and thrown out in this way, just to give them exercise in picking it off, you know.

But the water, well that was forgotten today, but then the trap door was open all day, and there was plenty of snow handy to eat. The second day, for a starter they are given a liberal supply of shelled corn, or perhaps some wheat or barley, but whatever it is, they will have enough to gorge themselves right on the spot. At noon they are watered. Again in the afternoon they are given a variety of clear shelled corn. Next day, all the corn they can eat in the morning, and at noon a cabbage will be thrown in, but this is extra and don't happen very often. Water and corn in afternoon. And lice, well they have no lice, haven't examined the hens closely, but have seen no signs of any around. And grit, no the hens have had no grit. And so it goes from week to week, until along in March when the snow gets melted away and the fowls get out, take some exercise and work off some of the fat, they will commence to lay, with eggs down, perhaps, to twelve or fourteen cents per dozen. I feel safe in saying that this is a fair example of the average farmer's treatment of his flocks, and these are the people who tell us that poultry don't pay.

Selling Stock.

I believe there are not many breeders that will sell their best stock, unless they intend to go out of the business. They could hardly expect to keep up to the proper standing and reputation if they disposed of the best. Just as soon as you are able to select the choicest pullets and cockerels, as to size, markings and general points, this should be done, then there will be no danger of disposing of the same by mistake. Every buyer wants the best he can obtain for the money; it's right he should have it. There are many buyers who are willing to pay a fancy price for a good bird, and the temptation to sell may be hard to resist. It is not an uncommon thing for very high prices to be paid for fine; stock for instance, a pen of four head of Barred Plymouth Rocks, seventy-five dollars. To any one outside of those in the business this would seem like an exorbitant price, but to a first class fancier who knows what he wants and can value the birds by (Continued on page twenty-four.)

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of the way, and in many cases has drink but little of this the first day or turned out a paying investment. If so, but after this they will take more the breeder is one of great promi- freely. Give nothing else to drink. nence, the purchaser should consider Put in fresh water every morning and himself fortunate if he can persuade add a litle more of the turpentine him to dispose of some of his best each time, until about one tablespoonshould be borne in mind, however, time feed only soft food, bran, midthat the purchasers in such cases, are, dlings, a little corn meal, cut clover. as a rule, breeders of prominence etc. For an ointment take four tablethemselves, who well understand the spoonfuls of lard and two of turpenvalue of the best blood, and the best tine, grease head and throat well and specimens of such blood.

Those who are willing to pay only sex, cannot expect to get anything but good, strong healthy specimens, with no particular marking, in fact just ordinary stock, such as the general poultry keeper would select for breeding purposes. But these are not to be despised, as they frequently turn they are intended as the highest priced birds. The breeder can always afford to sell his surplus culls, or his discarded breeders, as a certain proportion of one's stock must be sold each year to make room for the young birds coming on. V. M. Couch.

Half Grown Chickens and Treatment for Roup.

On a good many farms, at this time of year, are found chickens that have not grown to full size, some not more be kept nor fed with the laying hens, for if they are allowed to run with the old stock, they will not get sufficient food to force them along so that they will amount to anything, and the chances are that at the same time the hens will become over fat, and unprofitable as layers. Place these half grown chickens in a pen by themselves where they will be comfortable, then feed them well.

out a few broods of late chicks; this I screen, three-sixteenths of an inch think is a mistake, except when special preparation has been made for eighteen by thirty inches in size, also them. They reach maturity too late to be of any use as winter layers, and begin laying just when eggs are the lowest, and generally cost more trouble and feed than they are worth. Sell them for what they will bring, or eat them as soon as they reach broiler

Several who keep poultry in this section have had considerable trouble with roup among their fowls during the past two or three years, and not until recently have they used any remedy that seemed to check the trouble, but since treating as follows, little or no trouble has been experienced: First clean the house thoroughly; by cleaning thoroughly, I do not mean to simply take a shovel and broom and clean up the floor, but after doing this in a complete manner, take out all movable fixtures, such as nest boxes, perches, feed troughs, etc., and clean them, then sprinkle everything with carbolic acid. Fasten the fowls in, and to one gallon of water add a teasponful of turpentine, placing this

personal selection the price is not out in their drinking dish. They will specimens, even at these figures. It ful has been put in, and during the give a good sized pill of same. Coal oil was also used in greasing the one or two dollars for birds of either throat and swabbing it out. This treatment was given every morning for a week or ten days. If the flock is large and only a few fowls are afflicted, then I would separate them from the others and place them in comfortable quarters to give treatment. However, a thorough renovating and disinfectout as profitable for the use for which ing with carbolic acid will act as a preventive to the others. and dampness, I believe, are often the cause of this disease, although not always.

V. M. Couch.

Clover for Poultry.

I have always realized the value of clover as a part of the feed of hens in winter, but until this year have been puzzled to get a supply of the properly cured clover leaves. I have heretofore saved and cured a large supply of lawn clippings. This, however, has than half grown. These should not never proved entirely satisfactory, owing to the fact that in our soil and climate blue grass soon drives out How to Feed. clover and in lawn clippings one gets a large per cent of grass, which, while of considerable value as feed for poultry, is not equal to clover.

This year, however, an idea occurred to me of getting clover for my hens with little trouble. I purchased a supply of pure clover hay of second growth, cut and cured at the proper A good many insist on bringing time. I then bought a piece of wire mesh, made of six-inch boards a sieve a tight box the size of the sieve.

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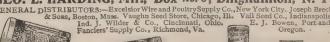
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set the sieve over the box, fill the sieve half full of the clover hay and with my hands rub back and forth over the screen. This breaks up fine the leaves and heads of the clover and they fall through into the tight box in the form of clover meal, and an ideal shape to be steamed and mixed with the soft food.

Preparing Quarters for Winter.

So many poultry raisers are prone to put off the fixing up of the winter quarters of the fowls until compelled to do so in order to save them from death. This is a grave error, and one that in the long run costs many dollars. During the summer months is really the time to attend to this ever important duty, but of course it is never too late to do well, especially for so good a friend as the hen.

Any person who is handy with the saw and hammer, can in a remarkably short space of time rebuild an unused cow shed, hog house, or any other building until it will be warm for the fowls. All cracks should be covered with cheap battens. Knock to pieces all the empty boxes on the place and a barrel stave is better than nothing. Nail them over the cracks with common 4 d nails.

Line the inside with tarred felt, steering clear of the tarred board, which is a flimsy article, and is not really worth putting on. Tarred felt can be bought of lumber dealers for about 2c a lb, and 100 lbs will cover about 700 sq. ft. Fasten it securely to the walls with lath or tin caps. This felt, aside from being wind and waterproof, is also proof against vermin of all kinds.

HANDY ARRANGEMENTS.

A poultry house should be arranged for comfort, as well as convenience to the owner. Each house should be divided into, or contain two rooms for each flock; one for roosting and laying, and the other for the exercise room, in which the fowls are to spend their time during the day. should be light and roomy. Windows should be in the south and east sides. The roosting and laying room should be cut off from the day department. It should be rather dark, for the idle fowls are less liable to be prowling around in it. Perches may be arranged to suit the convenience and should have a tight platform beneath to catch the droppings.

Under the roosts the nest boxes can be placed, thus utilizing all the space. To be sure that mites and lice do not infest the nest boxes the inside should be neatly lined with tarred felt. A bed of leaves should be provided for the fowls to spend their time in digging for oats, wheat or other small grain, which should be thrown there each morning. As soon as the fowls come down from the roosts they should be put to work, thus taking out of them the liability of beginning the day in laziness.—F. H. Petts, in Farm and Homs.

Helpful Pointers

To have a healthy flock keep but few in a pen.

Houses that are cleaned daily rarely need disinfecting.

Broken eggs in the nest start the fowls to eating them.

Eggs cannot be produced without nitrogenous material in some shape.

Chickens that eat the most grit are in the best condition.

Cleanliness about the feeding places should be observed.

If fowls are delicate it is because they have been inbred and not because they are pure bred.

Feeding a little at a time and oftener is a better plan to throw out more than the fowls will eat at once.

To fatten a chicken to the best advantage it must not be allowed its liberty or much of its food will run away

Finely powdered or slaked lime scattered about the poultry quarters is one of the very best preventatives of croup.

In nearly all cases when ready to fatten poultry it will be best to confine in rather darkened quarters and to feed them cooked food.

BEAUTIFUL POULTRY.



The above is a reproduction of a most beautiful lot of Poultry. The original is an oil painting by a famous French artist, and has attracted much attention wherever exhibited. It is now owned by George H. Stahl of Quincy, Illinois. Mr. Stahl has had made a limited number of views in natural colors, suitable for framing, size 10½x14 inches, and if you will remit him six cents in postage, to cover cost of packing and mailing, mentioning Vick's Family Magazine, he will send you a copy free of charge. He will also send you one of his large, handsomely illustrated catalogues, containing 14 colored views of the celebrated Excelsior Incubator and the famous Wooden Hen, together with a view showing the "Development of the Chick" from the first to the twenty-first day. Don't fail to write at once for the supply of views is limited.

A Sick Hen

might as well be a dead hen so far as profit goes. If it is Cholera, Lice, Roup or any of the ordinary diseases that the hen is heir to, the celebrated "Uncle Sam" remedies will cure her I ask your special attention to my ad. on page 24. I can serve you, whatever your needs and you will get the best remedies in the world.—George L. Harding.

White Wyandottes A limited number of thoroughbred cockerels at \$1, each to close out. D. C. Kreidler, Dansville N. Y.

Poultry Records, 56 pages, 6x9, for 6 yards, 20 cents, V. M. COUCH, Larkfield, Suffolk County, N. Y.

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Our Poultry Department, under the able direction of Mr. Charles F. Thompson is becoming more and more popular. Our great aim is to help those who keep but a few hens, to make the most of them. It is easy to make a failure of poultry without proper instruction. It will be easy to make a success of it if you will read our Poultry Department each month.

Special Poultry Number

February will be a special Poultry Number when poultry topics will be discussed more extensively. This one issue will be worth the price of a year's subscription to anyone interested in poultry. It will pay anyone who has eggs or stock to sell, to run a small advertisement in this special issue. 60,000 thousand copies will be issued and you can run a three line advertisement for only \$1.00.

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In case you desire to run a larger advertisement write us for price, stating which club you desire. Should you not desire to advertise with us we will accept your order for any one of the clubs for \$1.05. Address,

Vick Publishing Company, Rochester, N. Y.

FRUIT NOTES.

(Continued from page ten.)

ington county, Arkansas, looking up this matter where the Black Ben Davis was said to have originated.

By the side of a log cabin I found the spot where the people living there told me the original B. B. Davis tree stood. They said it had grown up there from seed and bore fruit continually from the time it was about five years old until it died from injury in 1889; which was about five years that it was in bearing. Several of the neighbors were interviewed and from all of them it was plain to me that they knew the main points of the history of this apple and that they thought very well of it.

The original tree grew up while a certain Methodist preacher named John Black, who first settled the farm, was living on it. A few years afterwards J. L. Reagan bought the farm, and his wife, who was a granddaughter of one of the old pioneer nurserymen of that region, seeing the good points of this apple prevailed on a neighbor, George L. Guthrie, to cut some scions and raise some young trees. She told him it "was the best apple in the world." He grafted these scions on seedling roots and planted them in a little row in his garden. The next year he set ten of them in his orchard and his wife gave three to her mother, Mrs. Beaty, who lived on an adjoining One of the trees on the Guthrie farm, now owned by John F. Bain, died, but the other nine are vigorous, bearing trees now. Two of the trees on the Beaty farm were destroyed by stock while they were young but the other one made a fine tree and bore fruit until it was killed by fattening hogs in a close pen built about it a few years ago.

At the Bain place I spent some time looking over the trees and found them full of fruit, while the Ben Davis trees all about them were bearing but a little. They were also holding their foliage better. I took samples from these trees and from Ben Davis trees next to them.

My next effort was to see some Gano trees, and these were found about eight miles distant, but on similar land and also in a state of non-cultivation. These trees were well loaded with fruit of the same size as that on the Black Ben Davis trees at the Bain farm, but it was not so red, and almost every apple that I examined had stripes on it; while none of the B. B. Davis was in the least striped but almost entirely covered with suffused red. From these Gano trees I also took samples. Not far from this place I saw the best orchard in that region, and it was in the best state of cultivation of any that I saw. As a part of it there were fifty-eight acres of Black Ben Davis trees four years old, which had been planted

A CURE FOR THE TOBACCO HABIT

Mrs. W. L. Spalding, 342 State St., Des Moines, Iowa has discovered a harmless remedy for the tobacot habit which cured her husband in 15 days, after being a slave to the weed for over 30 years. It can be given secretly and is harmless. Mrs. Spalding will send the prescription free to any one sending stamped envelope to pay postage.

because of the good opinion the owner had formed from what he had seen of the variety at the Bain farm,

After reaching my home in Washington, D. C., I put the fruit procured in Arkansas in my cellar, which was warm, to ripen. On the 10th day of November I found them in proper condition to test for flavor, when they were cut. Outside they showed the same characteristics as when first gathered. Inside there were no material differences noticed. The flesh of all, which included Ben Davis, was of the peculiar whitish color and spongy texture of that variety. The flavor was the same also, being mild subacid and lacking in richness. The core formation and seeds were identical. Without the labels it was impossible to tell them apart.

The conclusion that forces itself upon me, after examining into this matter on the ground in Arkansas and the specimens after they were in a mellow condition, is, that there are differences between Gano and Black Ben Davis. There are two varieties and not one. Neither of them is better than Ben Davis in quality, nor can they be distinguished from it in flesh or flavor, so far as I could judge from these specimens. In appearance the Gano is redder and more handsome than Ben Davis, and Black Ben Davis is still more so. If I wanted to plant any trees of this type they would be of the latter. But, we should try to find something better in quality than any of them. So long as this is not possible in some sections, we will have to do the next best thing.

H. E. Van Deman.

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MY TREASURE.

[Continued from page nine.]

Her beautiful voice trembled little; she looked over at me, and found me gazing searchingly at her. Without a word she quietly took off her bonnet, and sat in silence while I gazed—puzzled, and a little nervous, if the truth must be told.

The silence was beginning to be awkward, when she spoke again.

"I will tell you what I can about myself, madam. I have worked for many years for one of the great outfitting houses in the city. I have earned barely enough-for I had my father to support, and he was in bad health. For him it was better for me to remain where I was, because I had more liberty; but he is dead, and the life is killing me. I am a welleducated woman. I was at school in Germany, and afterward in France: and as a child I lived in Naples. am, -or was, I ought to say, for it is years since I played or sang,-a really good musician. I read well, and write a good hand. I should like to-serve you, Miss Mauleverer; I have read most of your books. would try to be gentle and faithful. But, as I said, I can give no references."

"Surely the firm which has employed you would recommend you?"

"I think so; but I shall not ask them to do so. They know me by my real name, which I mean henceforth to forget. Mary Smith is not really my name."

"You must be aware," said I, "that this is a most extraordinary avowal."

"I am indeed. I am sure my employers would, if I asked them, recommend me as Mary Smith, for they know me very well, and would understand. But I have not asked them. If you think that the objection is insuperable, I can stay where I am. But I will not begin by deceiving voii.''

A rather long pause ensued: then I said with a laugh-

"I wonder what people would say if

I did so wild a thing?" "No one need ever know about it."

"Now, Miss Smith-since so it pleases you to be called -what put it into your head that I could possibly agree to your proposal?"

In a moment she colored crimson, and when she colored she looked quite After some hesitation she said---

"It was partly your books. You seem to have a great sympathy with your less fortunate sisters, and it seemed to me possible that you might be able to understand that a woman may wish to lose her old self, without being to blame in the matter. And -long ago-I knew some one who knew you. So I made up my mind to trv.

"Do you know French?" I asked.

"Yes, and German, and Italian was the language of my childhood. And I used to sketch very fairly."

"Landscape?"

"Yes," she answered.

"A woman like you must be very miserable among the people employed by-oh, by the way, I don't know by whom,"

"There are some that I could have liked; but I have been obliged to keep aloof. Oh, madam, my life has been one long penance since I grew to womanhood.'

It was her voice that did it. she had spoken in tones less crystal pure, if she had once said "idear," or if she had begun to cry over her woes, I should have frozen at once. But to have that delicious voice to speak to me-that quiet presence ever with me-it was a great temptation. And I suppose her reference to my books had insensibly softened me.

"Will you go to the piano and let me hear you play;" said I.

"It is ten years since I last played," she answered. But she rose and opened the instrument, playing some simple airs with the most wonderful feeling. Then she began a brilliant mazurka, but broke down, and said, "I have forgotten that;" and almost as if unconsciously, she began to sing. It was a very simple little ballad-but as to the exquisite beauty of her voice, I can find no words to describe it.

I was conquered! but I did not care to tell her so at once. I said-

"Now, do you think you could go to any place I want to mention in my writing, sketch the most remarkable features, and describe it all to me?"

"It would be delightful work!" she exclaimed, her eyes brightening.

Still, I was anxious not to appear like a fool. So I said-

"I will consider the matter. Could you call again before the end of the week?"

Not until Sunday. I could not ask for leave to go out again, and we are working very late. Miss Mauleverer, will you promise me not to tell what I have told you to any one?"

"I promise, on condition that you answer me one question. In your past, which you wish to forget, is there anything that ought to stand between you and me?"

She looked at me and said-

"I do not quite understand?"

"You wish to abandon your name. Forgive me-but this looks as if-Miss Smith, is there any stain upon that name?-you must understand me now."

Again she crimsoned, exclaiming, Oh no-none, none. My troubles have been many, but . . . it was my father . . . nothing of that kind.'

She was silent for a few moments. and then said quietly—
(Continued on page 28.)

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MY TREASURE.

(Continued from page nine)

"On my life there is no stain. swear it solemnly. On my name there is-but it was not of my making."

"Well-will you call on me on Sunday, then? Oblige me by ringing the bell-I am quite helpless, you see. We will have have some tea before you go.''

Essie brought tea, and I asked my visitor to pour it out. As I watched her quiet, graceful, noiseless movements, I said to myself, "I must and will risk it!"

"Miss Smith, suppose you come to me, shall you be in no danger of meeting people who know you?"

"No one-not even-no one living would recognize me," she answered; 'besides, I did not at any time move in your circle."

"In what circle, then?" said I 'for I am very sure that you did not acquire your accent and manner in any-but I beg your pardon. I forget myself strangely. Very likely your circle was rather above than below mine;" and I felt myself blush like a girl at my awkward blunder.

"By birth," she answered, "I belong to the mercantile class. But my mother was an Italian, and of good birth: and I spent much of my childhood with her family."

"Will you have another cup tea?" I asked. I was watching her very closely. Every movement was ladylike, and she seemed completely at her ease: her manner could not possibly be assumed for the occasion. Having finished her second cup of tea,

"I think, Miss Mauleverer, that I have some sketches of mine among my few possessions. May I send them to you, that you may see whether I can do what you want in that line? And may I call on Sunday?"

"Yes," I said. "At four, if that will suit you."

Good morning, Miss "It does. Mauleverer."

Yet she lingered for a moment, as if there was something that she longed But she did not speak: with to sav. a little sigh, which expressed as much patience as anxiety, she turned away -and in a moment I was alone. I shivered—it seemed so cruel to let her go from my warm cosey room out into the bitter wind. In that iacket. too!

I pretended to myself that I meant to consult some of my friends during the interval between Miss Smith's visit and the following Sunday. But I never consulted any one. I amused myself by imagining what this or that person would say if I told my story. Mrs. Chichester, formerly Edith Mauleverer, and Philip's sister, would say, "You'd be murdered in your bed, Fanny! robbed and murdered. For mercy's sake, don't do anything so that "the poor soul had escaped from some lunatic asylum," and entreat me

not even to see her again. Every one would declare, and with great justice, that to engage a companion on her ewn recommendation, without even a reference as to character, -a woman of whom I knew nothing except that the name by which she called herself was not her own, -was a mad, rash act: and yet I knew in my heart that this was exactly what I meant to do.

The drawings were left at my door late the next evening by Miss Smith herself. They were uncommonly good. I knew the places where some of them were done, and knew that they were correct, as well as spirited and pretty. Some were done in sepia, others were colored, but there was nothing finished about them, and it seemed to me that they were leaves from a small sketch-book, newly torn

Sunday came: four o'clock came, and, punctual to a minute, Miss Smith came. She was far less calm than on her first appearance—she seemed half afraid to look at me, and her hands trembled as she filled the cups with tea; for I ordered tea at once, seeing how very cold she was. When Essie left us, I said at once-

"Miss Smith, if you will assure me of one thing, you will oblige me. I know it is a strange question to ask, but forgive me. Have you ever been in . . . a lunatic asylum?"

I blurted this out all in a breath. She started—looked at me, and then laughed; and her laugh answered me. No one whose mind has ever been affected laughs like that.

"Oh, no," she said "never, deed. Do I look like it?- well, I knew I was very much changed. Ihardly can venture to ask you, for somehow, since I was here last, my hope that you might engage me has come to seem very wild and presumptuous-but yet I must ask-have you made up your mind about me, Miss Mauleverer?"

"You positively can give me no reference?" said I.
"None. The fact is, that unless I

can get employment that I can like, on my own terms, I prefer to remain where I am."

"On your own terms, as to your name, etc., you mean-for the question of salary has never been mentioned yet between us."

"I should leave that to you altogether. I have no one to think ofbut myself."

I remained silent, half unwilling to commit myself finally; but I hap pened to look at her in a few moments. Her great soft eyes were fixed on my face, her lips were pressed firmly together, her hands clasped. She was in an agony of hope and fear, though she sat still and silent. It was cruel to delay-particularly as my mind was made up.

"Miss Smith," said I, "you must

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help it. I shall be myself again in a the only fault Edith found; on the God's help—you shall never regret was the skeleton of a perfect lady, this."

And I must admit I never did.

CHAPTER III.

FIVE QUIET YEARS.

to those early days when Mary Smith eases of the throat, lungs and bronchial came to me a stranger, and I watched her every action with a small degree of suspicion, which, I suppose, was unavoidable under the circumstances! It was very characteristic of Mary that she never seemed aware of my watching nor in the least degree put out by it. And I never discovered anything that was not pure and sweet and good. Just at first I was a little distressed, because she went out every morning before breakfast, and never said anything about it; but when I found that she only went to the early daily service at St. M---'s, I said to myself that it was no sin, though very amazing. I soon became aware that she was deeply and truly religious; and I am not ashamed to confess that I learned much from her. Not that she ever directly tried to "do me good," a process which I should have resented at once, and for which she was far too humble-minded. But one could not live with Mary-my Mary, as I used to call her-without being the better for it.

Edith Chichester, and a number of other friends, saw my new acquisition for the first time on the Monday after her arrival. Every Monday I was "at home," and dispensed tea and cake and talk to all and sundry, from four to seven. Very crowded my room was, and is; for, really people are very kind to me, and they know I cannot go to them. If there is one thing of which I am proud, it is this, that, with the exception of a few who have left London, or ceased to come up for the season, or —alas!—"gone over to the majority," my visitors are the same as the visitors of that time. have never lost a friend, except by death. Girls and boys, who were children then, are grown up now, and come with their mothers; dear me! they do flirt audaciously, some of them. But to return to my first Monday.

Mary had come to me on Saturday. and my first glance at her relieved me from an embarrassment which had been annoying me a good deal during the interval between the day on which I engaged her, and this on which she came to me. I somehow felt that she was not a person with whom one could take a liberty, and yet truly her dress was lamentably shabby. I need not

am doing. My friends, I expect, new attire, tasteful and elegant, though would begin to inquire about a luna- rather plain. I never saw her unsuittic asylum for me! I am going to ably or unbecomingly dressed, and engage you-on the strength of your really, in spite of her white hair and candid eyes and pleasant voice!" She her worn look, she was very beautiful; suddenly covered her face with her at least I thought so, for I remember hands, and began to sob in a strange Edith Chichester asked me if I meant to study anatomy, that I had set up a "Oh, do forgive me. I cannot ready-made skeleton. But this was moment. Miss Mauleverer - with whole she approved, and said that it which was a great comfort.

(Continued in February number.)

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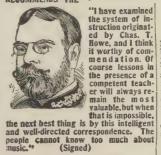
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Through Fields and Woodlands. (Continued from page six.)

They do not come to the roost in many small bands, but gather from their feeding grounds and all fly home together for the night. Many branches are broken down with their weight, for they seem to have favorite perches and there is a wild scramble for these, accompanied by such a cawing and screaming as you may imagine to come from the throats of thousands of crows. Finally when darkness settles around they quiet down, and apparently all go to sleep, with the exception of some nervous ones, who from time to time give a caw or two. It is a fine sight to see them come home in a long, thick line, flying against a crimson sky, for while many will not admit that the crow is a pretty bird, certainly in a winter landscape he is decorative. This great roost, which was in a small wood, is not popular as a nesting site. There was but a single nest there and that was a crow's, all the smaller birds passing it by. The birds do not live there in summer but scatters over the country in pairs or small bands, coming back in the early fall bringing the young with them. Last year the first comers began to arrive about August 15. In search of food when the ground is frozen and covered with snow these birds will fly thirty miles to their feeding ground in the morning and home at night. They generally fly home from the north.

Some Iron-Clads. (Continued from page five.)

Before any were established in our part of the country the problem was being studied; and I have been interested to experiment for myself in a small way to learn what shrubs, plants, etc., might be grown for a succession of years without covering of any sort in winter, with but slight assistance as to watering at any season. Where the mercury often drops to twenty degrees below zero in winter, and sometimes much lower, where freezing and thawing conditions quickly alternate, where snowdrifts sometimes lie piled for weeks, and where for whole winters the ground lies hare: and while my modest list comprises by no means all that may be so grown, it represents my testimony based upon personal experiment covering the last five years. My grounds are sheltered on the west and north by a wind break of ash timber. partially on the east by a plum thicket and a little from the south by buildings. Here then is the list. Mockorange Syringa, Lilac-Persian Spirea, Van Houttei, Yucca, Peonies in variety, Harrison's Yellow Rose, 1ristwo varieties, Dianthus in variety Ampelopsis quinquefolia (Virginia Creeper), and Achillea. The list might be added to but these would grace any dooryard with but little more trouble than the planting in rich, deep soil, and many of the list will improve in the ratio with which care is given.

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Slight Mistake.

Continued from the December Number

one moonlight night, I awoke from my dreaming with a start of consternation. I was in love with a lunatic! Never shall I forget the horror of that lay on the floor beside her, and she hour! My hair stands on end now when I think of it. Just imagine it, you fellows! There was I, shut up with the girl I loved on a steamer in mid-ocean, with another week of the journey to look forward to! During my cabin. I stopped at the door and this time I should see her all day, so that there was no hope of my forgetting her; and then when we landed, I should be separated from her forever! A fortnight before this I should have laughed at the thought of my falling in love with anyone of unsound mind, but now? I had deliberately done so-I loved her as I had never loved anyone before! As I stood there in the moonlight, leaning against the rail, I believe I almost contemplated suicide. Had I been a woolen shawl that she always wore on younger I might have carried out the idea, but I was thirty-two, and not so impulsive as I once was.

"Suddenly a hand was laid on my arm, and the wild eyes of the Major looked into mine. I was startled by his expression.

"Gibson,' he gasped— what shall I do? she has refused me!'

"Great Scott!' I exclaimed. 'You asked her, knowing-

He nodded.

"' 'I don't believe it,' he answered fiercely,' and if it's true I don't care! Gibson, I never loved a woman before and I never shall again! heavens, how hard it is!"

"He buried his face in his hands and groaned. I did not know what to say, for I was feeling pretty badly myself.

""Why wouldn't she have you?" I asked at length.

" 'Said she couldn't love meindeed, she hinted pretty plainly that there was someone else. I hate the fellow, whoever he is!'

"'I remained silent. I felt that reasoning would be of no use: besides there was a lump in my throat which made speech a difficult matter. Whenever I hear the creaking of a ship and the sounds of the watch on deck, and the splashing of the water round the bows, I always live that hour again. I don't know how long we stood there. The Captain passed us once with a cheery 'Grand night!' but neither of us replied. At last the Major turned jolly man with the young wife!" away and went below without a word, and some time after I followed him.

"But the next morning something occurred which drove the Major completely out of my head.

"I was passing the open door of Miss Goodwin's cabin and, looking in,

"So the Major had her all to him- observed her standing by her open self-except at times, when I felt it valise examining an object which she my duty to make myself agreeable to held in her hand. So intent was her her. Little by little this duty became gaze that she did not see me, but as more pleasant, till one day or rather my glance fell on the thing she grasped, I nearly betrayed myself by an involuntary cry of horror. It was a long glittering knife! The sheath was critically feeling the edge to test its sharpness. As she did so, I heard her give a low, blood-curdling chuckle. I must confess that when I heard that, I turned and fled in the direction of wondered what steps I ought to take. There was no knowing what she intended to do with that knife; and it was clearly my duty to stop her doing any mischief with it; but how was I to set about it? Violence might make her desperate—I must try strategy. I opened my door softly and looked out; then I crept along towards Miss Goodwin's cabin. The door was open, but the cabin was empty, and I stepped in. On her berth lay deck in the evening, and underneath the shawl was the knife, now sheathed and innocent-looking. Evidently she had laid it down in a hurry and concealed it from prying eyes with the shawl. I seized it and hurried out, without any definite plan of action. The one feeling that actuated me was this-that on no account must the knife be allowed to remain in her possession for another instant.

"As I stood irresolute, the door of another cabin opened, and out stepped Miss Price. Here was my opportunity. I put the knife into her hands and, murmuring something about Miss Goodwin's having dropped it, fled up the companion-ladder.

"When next I saw Miss Goodwin she was smiling and calm as ever.

"By the time we reached Honolulu Miss Maynard's engagement to Captain Blake had been publicly announced, and the prettier of the plain girls-if you will pardon the paradox -was trying to make up her mind between an Indian medical man and a fairy-like lieutenant, who had little white hands, pink cheeks and a waxed mustache under which ne displayed gleaming tiny white teeth. The poor Major was no longer gay and sprightly -he looked white and careworn, and his eyes had dark shadows under them as if he had but little sleep. By the way, boys, I fancy you know him-he

was here not long ago."
"Oh, I know," said Ramsdell, "the

"Yes-you see he consoled himself; nevertheless he was very hard hit at the time. Well, at last the Golden Gate came in sight! The hitherto undecided girl suddenly decided in favor of the lieutenant, the other people

(Continued on page thirty-four.)

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For Afternoon Wear.

Slot Seam Shirt Waist 4253—Seven-Gored Slot Seam Skirt 4197

Home



Canvas weaves of all variations are much worn and are exceedingly effective. This smart after noon gown is made of etamine of the canvas sort in sage green, trimmed with bands of velvet in a deeper shade, and is worn with a velvet belt held by a clasp that matches the three large enamelled buttons.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is for waist 4½ yards 21 inches wide, 3½ yards 27 inches wide or 5½ yards 44 inches wide; for skirt 10½ yards 21 inches wide, 9½ yards 27 inches wide.

The waist pattern 4253 is cut in sizes for a 29

44 inches wide.

The waist pattern 4253 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38, 40 and 42 inch bust measure.

The skirt pattern 4197 is cut in sizes for a 22, 24, 26, 28 and 30 inch waist measure.

For Morning Wear.

Box Plaited Shirt Waist 4180. Five Gored Walk ing Skirt with Habit Back 4190.



Morning gowns, made in shirt waist style with skirts that clear the ground, are among the fashionable features of the season and are ideally comfortable as well as smart. The stylish model shown is of granite cloth in royal blue with bias bands of black and white silk, but all the simpler woolen fabrics are suitable.

Dressmaking

The quantity of material required for the medium size is, for waist 4 yards 21 inches wide, 3% yards 27 inches wide or 2 yards 44 inches wide; for skirt 5% yards 27 inches wide, 41/4 yards 44 inches wide or 3 yards 50 inches wide.

The waist pattern 4180 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38 and 40 inch bust measure

The skirt pattern 4190 is cut in sizes for a 22, 24 26, 28 and 30 inch waist measure

A Fashionable Coat.

Woman's Long Coat 4219.



Long coats have become established features of correct dress and will be much worn the season through both as utility garments and evening wraps. When used for the former purpose they are of cloth or cheviot in black, Oxford dark tan and covert cloth. When designed for evening wear they are made of cloth in white and pale tints, of silk, of velvet, of all handsome materials, but are never more serviceable nor more smart than when biscuit or pale tan cloth is the chosen material, white silk the lining.

The attractive design illustrated suits both purposes equally well but, as shown, is of broadcloth in a dark shade of tan with collar facing of brown velvet and designed for street or traveling wear. Without being in the least tight it is

shapely and combines grace of line with utility.

The quantity of material required for the medium size is 9 yards 27 inches wide, 53/4 yards 44 inches wide or 5½ yards 54 inches wide. The pattern 4219 is cut in sizes for a 32, 34, 36, 38

and 40 inch bust measure.

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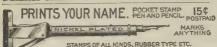
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A Slight Mistake.

(Continued from page thirty-one.)

made up their quarrels, and I tried in vain to feel pleased at the thoughts of treading American soil again.

"' 'I wonder whether we shall meet." said Miss Goodwin to me. 'Where do you spend Christmas, Mr. Gibson?"

" 'With- I began but at that moment some one interrupted us, and I did not have an opportunity of finishing my sentence.

"Good-bye, Mr. Gibson, said Miss Maynard, coming up to me.

" 'And when is the wedding to be?' I asked.

" 'The first week in January,' she replied,' blushing, 'Will you come? Tom and I would be so pleased!'

" 'I promised to be there, and then went to find the Major. He was in his cabin, strapping up a roll of rugs.

" 'America at last!' he sighed. Wish I'd stopped in the Philippines!'

" 'Cheer up, Major!" I said, trying to look very cheerful myself, and not succeeding particularly well. 'You'll soon forget your disappointment, once you're down in Kentucky among all your pretty girls!'

" 'Not a bit of it!' he replied, in a doleful voice. 'No, no! You can't understand, my boy, but wait till you feel as I do!'

"Not understand. Good heavens!

" 'Look me up in Manila!' were his last words to me. His furlough was for six months. I was going back in three.

"I bade a hurried farewell to Miss Goodwin, in whose beautiful eyes I fancied there was a look of regret, and shortly afterwards I stepped on shore.

"When I reached Washington, I took up my quarters at the Arlington Hotel, and after lunch went for a stroll down the Avenue, where I met an old friend who gave me a cordial invitation to spend a month at his place in Maryland-he promised me capital sport. I accepted gladly, and a week later I was established comfortably at Linley Hall, one of the old manor-houses on the Eastern Shore.

"It chanced that one day at dinner I happened to mention my intention of spending Christmas with old Joe Chancellor, of Oakland, and it turned out that he was well known at Linley, being indeed a relative of my hostess.

"'He's a dear old fellow,' she said warmly-'you're sure to have a good time there! The house is always full of nice people at Christmas, and he makes a perfect host!'

"But beware of the ladies!" laughed Linley. 'His nieces are lovely, and so are his sisters, and his cousins, and his aunts. I hear that J. LEE, one niece in particular has the effect of turning the head of every man she meets.'

" 'What's her name?' I asked, quite impressed.

" 'Don't remember her surname, but her Christian name's "Roma."

poor Miss Goodwin's! I had seen it written in the book she had dropped.

"'I have heard it once or twice before,' I replied, 'but it is uncommon.'

"Where was Miss Goodwin now? I had never heard her intended destination-I don't believe I had ever even asked; it had been enough for me to know that I could never see her again. This conversation took place at the beginning of December, and a fortnight after I set off for Oaklands. quite excited at the thought of the lovely niece, although I knew that she could not possibly be so fair to me as was that other Roma.

'At the little station I found Chancellor, who was delighted to see me. He was several years my senior, and looked older than he really was, but his figure was young and athletic as

" 'Glad you were able to come, old man!' he exclaimed heartily. 'Come along! 'I've got the dog-cart waiting.'

"I followed him to the cart-a smart turn-out, with a very pretty mare between the shafts-and in we jumped. There had been a fall of snow the day before and the country was looking lovely-a fairy whiteness

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Miss L. Deltz, Emsworth, Pa Do not experiment with your family doctory J. F. SHAFER, M. D., 403 Penn Ave., Pittsburg, Ps against a leaden sky which spoke of another fall.

" 'That's Oaklands!' said Chancellor, after we had driven a couple of miles, pointing with his whip to an ancient-looking and handsome house between the trees, long and low, and already lighted up in a welcoming sort of fashion. We pulled up at a massive door, which opened immediately, displaying a huge paneled hall brightened by a blaze of firelight. Mrs. Chancellor, a pretty little woman of about my own age, came forward to greet us.

"' 'How do you do?' she said warmly. 'You must be fearfully cold! Do come and warm yourself! I wanted to send the brougham, but Joe said "Fudge!" Men always think they know best! Now, would you like to go up to your room -there's a good fire there, and you've got just an hour before dinner?'

"My room was cozy and warm, and I did not go down until the dinner-bell rang. The drawing-room was full of people then, mostly young, and I found that the girl I was to take in to dinner was pretty and charming.

" 'We're all ready,' said Mrs. Chancellor, 'except Roma.'

Of course! I had forgotten that there was a Roma.

" 'Here she is!' cried Joe's voice, as the door opened and in glided-Miss Goodwin! A vision of loveliness in old gold and white, she nodded brightly.

" 'Who's to take me in, please?' she asked.

"Oh, how I hated the fellow who stepped forward to give her his aim! All through dinner I sat and gazed at her, paying but little attention to the remarks of my companion, I'm afraid, for she soon gave up the attempt to make me talk and turned to her neighbor on the other side. But I was far from feeling unmixed joy, especially as a remark from Joe about 'my niece's delicary' caught my ear. No doubt he wanted to be kind to the poor girl! He had taken no notice of her unfortunate affliction, and had asked her there as usual-Joe was always a good-hearted chap. After all, she was not violent, and was probably in most ways just like other people. Just like! No, a thousand times better!

"I looked down the long table, and there, next to a weedy-looking curate, I saw the inevitable Miss Price! I grew hot as I remembered the knife incident. What had been Roma's intention that day? I wondered. Had she any definite intention at all? It was all a mystery to me, and the chances were that it would never be explained. Cerainly I did not intend to broach the subject.

"When we joined the ladies in the drawingroom, I at once made my way to Roma's side, but, owing to the presence of a conceited little politician, on whose head I poured bitter maledictions, I was unable to get two words with her. As I thought of that day on board ship when I had felt se afraid of her, I railed at myself as an idiot. I felt that it would be a pleasure even to be killed by her now-in short, I was disgusted-utterly disgusted-with myself and with every one about me! That evening I discovered that, in addition to her other charms, my divinity possessed the voice of an angel. Other girls sang, but after Roma's their voices somehow reminded me of cats, and I felt angry with the gathering for being so pleased with them. The politician sang a silly song and Roma played the accompaniments.

"I went to bed delirious because she had pressed my hand slightly; she might have done the same to every one else, but I was too insane to think of that possibility. The greatest lunatic that ever existed was not nearly so insane as I was that night; had I met the politician in a dark and lonely corridor with a weapon in my hand, I believe I should have slain him.

"I tossed about all night unable to sleep, but next morning fortune favored me-I found Roma alone in the morning room!

" 'I heard that a Mr. Gibson was coming and thought it must be you,' she said. 'I'm so glad to meet you again! What a jolly voyage we had, and you and the Major were so kind! The others were a trifle stand-offish I think. Didn't you find them so?'

"' 'I did,' I murmured, awkwardly.

" 'Oh, do you know,' she went on, I'm so glad I came home in that ship. I had intended taking passage in the next vessel, and a terrible tragedy has happened on it. Perhaps you haven't heard? A poor girl who was on board escaped from her attendant and jumped overboard! Wasn't it dreadful? She was drowned, you know.'

" 'Her-her name?' I gasped.

"Godwin. I believe she was to have sailed with us, but something prevented it. Mr. Gibson! Why-why-'

"Suddenly she divined the truth! A light broke over her puzzled face, and then she buried her face in her hands. Thinking that she was sobbing, I fell on my knees beside her.

"' 'Roma, forgive me, darling!' I murmured, and lifting one of her hands, pressed it to my lips. Then I raised my eyes and saw that she was speechless with laughter.

" 'Oh!' she gasped as soon as she could speak. 'Oh, it is too funny!'

" "Do you-can you forgive me?" I implored.

" 'Why, yes, you poor thing, you couldn't help it! You were awfully good to me! Oh, dear! Oh, dear! I've never been taken for a lunatic before. What a joke!'

"Then I summoned up all my courage and asked her a certain momentous question. And the answer was supremely satisfactory.

"Just after I had received it, Joe Chancellor entered the room.

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"' 'Roma,' he said, 'the knife is splendid. With that weapon added to the brigand costume I shall eclipse everyone else at the ball.'

"So glad you like it, uncle!" she replied. 'I often used to chuckle at the thought of you as a bold chieftain, especially when I looked at the knife and felt its extreme bluntness. There's going to be a fancy-dress ball next week,' she explained to me, 'and uncle wrote a long time ago, describing his costume, so I bought a real Tagalog bolo for him the day I left Manila.'

"I changed the subject by introducing Joe to my future wife.

"There, that's the story, and here comes the heroine"-and at that moment Mrs. Gibson stepped out on the balcony to announce that dinner was ready. As she stood there in her simple white dress, with the son and heir of Gibson in her arms, our imaginations were quite able to picture a little of what her distracted lover American Home. must have felt.

The Super-Sense of Animals.

When engaged in locating a railway in New Brunswick, Mr. James Camden, a civil engineer, was compelled one night by a very severe snowstorm to take refuge in a small farmhouse. The farmer owned two dogs-one an old Newfoundland and the other a collie. In due time the farmer and his family went to bed, the Newfoundland stretched himself out by the chimney corner and Mr. Camden and the man with him rolled themselves in their blankets on the floor.

The door of the house was closed by a wooden latch and fastened by a bar placed across it. Mr. Camden and his man were just falling asleep when they heard the latch of the door raised. They did not get up at once, and in a short time the latch was tried again.

They waited a few minutes, and then Mr. Camden rose, unfastened the door and looked out. Seeing nothing he returned to his blankets but did not replace the bar across the door. Two or three minutes later the latch was tried a third time. This time the door opened and the collie walked in. He pushed the door quite back, walked straight to the old Newfoundland, and appeared to make some kind of a whispered communication to him. Mr. Camden lay still and watched. The old dog rose and followed the other out of the house. Both presently returned, driving before them a valuable ram belonging to the farmer, that had become separated from the rest of the flock, and was in danger of perishing in the storm. Now, how did the collie impart to the other dog a knowledge of the situation unless through some super-sense unknown Forest and Stream.

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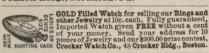
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TALKS ABOUT FLOWERS.

(Continued from page four.)

strong, but where hyacinths, etc., are originally plump and sound they may be made to remain so, to a considerable extent by treating them properly. As soon as a pot of bulbs gets through flowering do not hustle it immediately down cellar. As the blossom dies, give it semi-weekly doses of liquid manure and place it in a moderately cool, light room or in your bulb box in the kitchen. After a while the leaves will begin to turn yellow; they may then be cut off to within a short distance of the bulb, and the pot returned to the cellar.

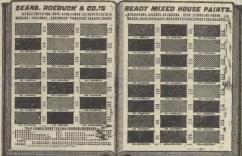
Liquid manure may be given once or twice after this, but if none is provided, one should keep the soil moist with water, but never sopping wet. When treated in this way the bulbs will be in very fair condition when you turn them from the pots in the spring. I do not say that they will blossom as well the second winter as the first, nor do I advocate this method only where it is found to meet with success, but I know that many of the bulbs so treated will be more satisfactory than most persons would expect. However, if you find that the plan does not work, plant the bulbs in the outdoor garden where they will recover their vitality, and rely on fresh, new bulbs, procured each fall.

When the house plants are supplied with what they need, go down cellar and see if anything requires to be done there. Plants, especially if dormant, cannot take care of themselves, and are obliged to look to you for help. Water should be given to fall planted bulbs. Remember that the soil must be moist in order to enable the roots and leaves to grow. If you give them too much water and the soil freezes, leave the bulbs severely alone—that is, do not take them up to the fire to thaw out.

The soil in which dormant geraniums, etc., are placed should not become dust dry. Keep it reasonably moist. The summer bulbs and tubers will probably need the most attention. If frost shows on the stone work of the cellar, the place is too cold for them, and they should be removed to warmer quarters. A cool temperature will not harm them, but a freezing one will. If decay sets in on any of the bulbs, promptly burn the most affected, and treat the others to a rubbing of sulphur. This may also be sprinkled on plants that are beginning to become mildewed.

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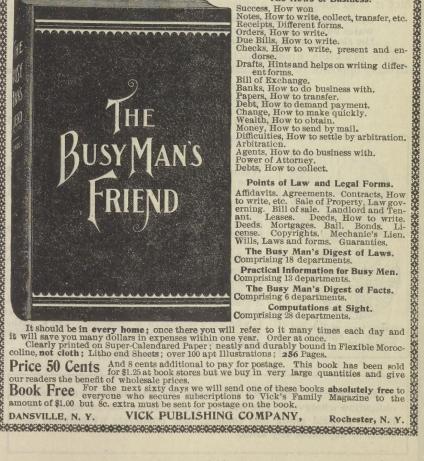
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Success, How won
Notes, How to write, collect, transfer, etc.
Receipts, Different forms.
Orders, How to write.
Due Bills, How to write.
Checks, How to write, present and endorse. dorse. Drafts, Hints and helps on writing differ-Drafts, Hints and helps on writing different forms.

Bill of Exchange.
Banks, How to do business with.
Papers, How to transfer.
Debt, How to demand payment.
Change, How to make quickly.
Wealth, How to obtain.
Money, How to send by mail.
Difficulties, How to settle by arbitration.
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Agents, How to do business with.
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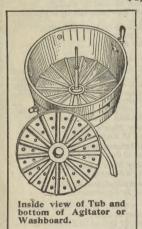
The operator turns it to the right and to the left about half way round each time. To make it work as nearly *automatic* as possible it is provided with two oiltempered coiled springs at the bottom of the tub, which engage at each extreme point and help to reverse the motion. The machine moves uninterruptedly until it reaches the point where it should be reversed; then it comes in contact with the force of these springs and like the action of a rubber ball bounds back, meeting the spring force again at the other extremity

The clothes are placed in the tub and the disc shown in the cut, which we call the agitator, is placed over them with the wash-board side down. This agitator does not turn, but adjusts itself automatically up and down, regulated by the amount of clothes and water in the tub. Over this a cover is placed to prevent steam from escaping. (See cuts below.)

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We do family work from Ashtabula. We have used 8 different machines, and the "1900" beats them all for good and fast work and durability.

GEO. N. BURNET.

HART, MICH., August 25, 1902. Please find enclosed money order to pay for my washer in full. We are well pleased with the washer. A great many people have looked at it. My mother, 83 years old, and I, who am a cripple in a wheeled chair, have done our washing in it for the last three weeks. for the last three weeks.

MRS. ALICE ROUSE.

Kansas City, Mo., May 14, 1902. I have given your washer a fair trial. It is the best washer I ever saw. It has washed our heavy blanwashed them last

washed them last spring and rubbed more than an hour and yet they had to go through again, but the "1900" Washer cleaned them thoroughly clean. We do our washing very quick and have no tired and worn out feeling as of old. I wish every lady had a washer.

MRS. J. L. BANNER,

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